

Reagan bans import of krugerrand

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan on Tuesday issued an executive order banning the import into the United States of krugerrands, the South African gold coin, as a protest against Pretoria's system of apartheid racial segregation. The order implemented one of several modest economic sanctions against South Africa announced by the president on Sept. 9. Mr. Reagan said the ban would take effect at 0001 EDT (0401 GMT) on Oct. 11. In an accompanying message notifying Congress of the ban, Mr. Reagan wrote: "All of the measures I have adopted against South Africa are directed at apartheid and the South African government and not against the people of that country or its economy."

(Related story on page 8)

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الراي»

Morocco severs relations with India

RABAT (R) — Morocco on Tuesday broke off diplomatic relations with India after New Delhi announced it recognised the republic proclaimed by Polisario guerrillas fighting Morocco for control of the Western Sahara. The Foreign Ministry said in a statement that India's recognition of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) prejudged the result of a referendum on self-determination in the disputed territory as called for by the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) and the United Nations. India had belittled one of the basic pillars of the Non-Aligned Movement which was the principle of self-determination, the Moroccan statement said. India is the present chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement and is the 63rd state to recognise the SADR. Morocco severed ties in November last year with Yugoslavia, another leading non-aligned nation, after it recognised the SADR.

Volume 10 Number 2984

AMMAN, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1985, MUHARRAM 17, 1406

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Talhouni returns from Moscow

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society President Bahjat Al Talhouni returned to Amman Tuesday after taking part in celebrations held in Moscow to mark the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Friendship Societies with Foreign Nations. In a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Mr. Talhouni said most of the delegations from 92 countries attending the week-long celebrations voiced support for the Jordanian delegation's speech. He said the celebrations constituted a major festival for peoples from around the world, including those from Syria, South Yemen as well as Jordan, who discussed world issues, especially questions related to nuclear dangers.

Iraq reports new 'devastating' raid

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq announced Tuesday that its jets launched a new, "devastating" raid on Iran's Kharg Island oil terminal to maintain its pressure on Iranian exports. A military spokesman said on state radio that the jets hit the Kharg facilities at 10:50 a.m. (0750 GMT), "starting new fires in the already blazing rubble." The raid on Kharg was the eighth in as many days and the 18th since Aug. 15, when Iraq vowed to destroy the island terminal to damage Iran's economy and force the Tehran regime to begin negotiating for peace.

India asks for Security Council debate on Mideast

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — India, on behalf of the 101-member Non-Aligned Movement, on Monday requested a meeting of the U.N. Security Council to deal with the Middle East problem, including the Palestinian question. Indian Ambassador Natarajan Krishnan said in a letter that the request was in line with a decision taken at a non-aligned foreign ministers conference in Luanda, Angola, Sept. 4-8. Mr. Krishnan's letter was addressed to British Ambassador Sir John Thomson, council president for September.

Pentagon: Czech jet attacked U.S. copter

WASHINGTON (R) — A Czechoslovak military jet fired at least two rockets at a U.S. army helicopter over West Germany on Saturday but the rockets missed, according to the Defense Department. Pentagon spokesman Robert Sims said the United States had strongly protested against the daylight attack. He said the attack was without warning inside German airspace on an Ah-Is Cobra helicopter with a two-man crew by a Czechoslovak L-39 military jet. Sims would not comment on whether any explanation had been given for the attack.

Polisario delegates leave Spain

MADRID (R) — Polisario Front representatives left Spain after Madrid's decision to expel them over a guerrilla attack on a Spanish trawler off Western Sahara. Government officials said.

Israelis bomb PLO buildings in Tunis; 156 killed or injured

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

TUNIS — Israeli warplanes bombed the headquarters of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in Tunis on Tuesday, killing or wounding 150 people, including civilians.

Reports said eight Israeli planes swooped over Tunis from the Mediterranean and fired rockets and bombs on the PLO headquarters, its security headquarters, the office of the PLO's chief of staff and a Palestinian hospital.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, who usually spends a considerable part of his time at the headquarters, was not within the building during the attack.

Mr. Arafat, alive but looking shocked, was seen afterwards staring speechless at a huge crater where the PLO office had stood. Reuter correspondent Souhayr Belhassen reported from the scene. Mr. Arafat was accompanied by a senior aide, Salah Khalaf.

The Kuwait News Agency (KUNA), which has good contacts throughout the Arab World, said Mr. Arafat changed his mind at the last minute and, rather than go to his office, told his driver to take him to an aide's office in the northern Tunis suburb of Massa.

Mr. Arafat, who returned to Tunisia from Morocco earlier Tuesday, did not talk to reporters. In a statement issued in Tel Aviv, Israel said its air force carried out the attack.

A PLO statement, which condemned the attack as "vile act" said eight Israeli planes used 500 kilograms of bombs and air-

to-ground missiles in the attack, the first on PLO institutions here since it moved its base to Tunis after the 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

Palestinian sources said F-16 fighters carried out the precision attack, which reduced the six-storey PLO headquarters building and two villas to rubble.

Some of the planes swooped in low from over the Mediterranean to avoid radar detection, while others came down from high altitude to carry out the attack, the sources told Reuters.

Israeli Radio said the planes refuelled in the air on the long haul up the Mediterranean.

But, Libyan Radio quoted the editor of the Libyan news agency JANA as saying the Israeli aircraft took off from "one of the American aircraft carriers present in the Mediterranean" under a J.L.S.-Israeli agreement under which "Israeli aircraft are entitled to be on board any American aircraft carrier."

Minutes after the Israeli jets screamed in and huge explosions shattered the calm of an early autumn morning, ambulances with sirens wailing raced to the scene.

Eight planes hit the PLO buildings, local people said. Palestinian sources said they uncashed a hail of rockets.

PLO aides said an attack was expected after the Lamaca har-

bour, Cyprus, killing by Palestinian and pro-Palestinian commandos last week of two Israeli men and a woman aboard a yacht. The PLO said it had no role in the attack.

Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin took personal charge of an operation centre during the Lamaca incident and Prime Minister Shimon Peres said Tuesday that Israel would never "forget" those Lamaca killings and "we will not forgive".

Israeli sources claimed the attack was aimed against Force 17, an elite PLO unit which Israel accuses of the Lamaca attack.

The PLO denied any prior knowledge of the attack, but Israel contended Force 17 was responsible.

The Tunis strike was reminiscent of Israeli operations like the June 7, 1981 bombing of the Iraqi nuclear reactor near Baghdad and the 1976 storming of Entebbe airport in Uganda.

The Tunis raid lasted just six minutes.

Hours after the air strike, mechanical diggers worked to shift tons of shattered concrete, flattened cars and twisted girders.

The PLO headquarters some 30 kilometres south of Tunis, is one of many PLO buildings in and around the capital.

PLO officials and a PLO statement issued in Tunis warned that the organisation will retaliate. "Israel will pay dearly for its criminal and treacherous attack," Ahmad Abdul Rahman, a close aide to Mr. Arafat told reporters.

The PLO statement said the Israeli target was the "personal domicile of Arafat," indicating

(Continued on page 3)

Israeli raid draws strong Arab, world condemnation

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

AMMAN — The Israeli air attack on Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) buildings in Tunis on Tuesday drew strong Arab and European condemnation. His Majesty King Hussein described the Israeli action as the latest in a series of acts of organised terrorism practised by the Jewish state.

At the United Nations, Saudi Arabia called for punitive sanctions against Israel and most Arab states, including Libya which is at odds with Tunis, pledged solidarity with Tunisia.

Egypt issued a strong condemnation of the Israeli raid and said Cairo was calling off a planned visit by Israeli officials to discuss a border dispute.

But the U.S. labelled the Israeli attack as an act of "legitimate defence" while the European Community strongly denounced the attack.

King Hussein, in a telephone call he made Tuesday to His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, said Jordan has always stood firm in the face of international terrorism wherever its source "and this was reaffirmed in my speech to the United Nations General Assembly last Friday and in talks with President Reagan on Monday."

The King said this stand was also reaffirmed by the Arab summit in Casablanca recently. Israel's aggression on Tunisia is a new link in organised terrorism adopted by Israel inside as well as outside the occupied Arab lands, the King said.

The King requested Prince Hassan to contact Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba and Tunisian officials to express Jordan's strong condemnation of this crime which Israel committed against innocent people and Jordan's solidarity with Tunisia, offering to place all of Jordan's capabilities at Tunisia's disposal in the face of aggression.

King Hussein said through its new aggression Israel has aimed at weakening opportunities for a just and comprehensive Middle East peace based on justice.

Condemnation of the Israeli attack was also voiced by Crown Prince Hassan in Amman and Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri in Washington, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

Prince Hassan telephoned Tunisian Prime Minister Mohammad Mzali and "reaffirmed Jordan's solidarity with the brotherly Tunisian people and condemned the Israeli aggression on sisterly Tunisia," Petra said.

Mr. Masri in a statement issued in Washington denounced "the unjustified Israeli aggression on the sovereignty of Tunisia and the headquarters of the Arab League." The Arab League is based in Tunisia.

He said the attack was "yet another example of the punishment of the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied territories." "Jordan demands that the international community... condemn this aggression and take steps to prevent any further such acts," he said.

Saudi Arabia condemned the Israeli air raid as a violation of international rules and said it constituted a threat to world peace and security.

"The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia denounces and condemns this aggression which is a blatant violation of the United Nations Charter and international norms," said a statement issued by the royal court in Jeddah.

The kingdom "affirms its solidarity with the government of Tunis and the sister nations of Tunis and Palestine, and calls on the international community to condemn this aggression which imperils world peace and security," the statement added.

At the United Nations, Saudi Arabia called for sanctions against Israel for the air raid and expressed solidarity with Tunisia.

Departing from the prepared text of a speech to the General Assembly, Saudi Arabian Defence Minister and Second Deputy Prime Minister Prince Sultan said it was not long ago that "we witnessed the Israeli criminal act of aggression against Iraq" — a reference to the bombing of Baghdad nuclear reactor in 1981.

"Now the aggressive nature of Israel has become all the clearer through a similar criminal act against sisterly Tunisia," he said.

"From this rostrum, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, while condemning this aggression, declares its unwavering support for Tunisia and calls upon all peace-loving countries and this organisation, with all its bodies, to impose deterring sanctions against Israel."

He added: "This call is addressed in particular to the states members of the Security Council to shoulder their responsibilities for the maintenance of international peace and security and put an end to aggression."

Later, in his prepared address, the Saudi minister called on the big powers to halt economic, political and military assistance to Israel.

He also said there was no alternative to Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories because its occupation contravened international law.

In Luxembourg, European Community foreign ministers were unanimous in denouncing the Israeli attack. Community diplomats quoted by Reuters said.

They said that the ministers, who were holding a routine meeting in Luxembourg, had a long discussion on the raid and were planning a formal statement of condemnation.

Egypt, the only Arab state to have diplomatic relations with Israel, described the attack as a criminal act and a threat to Middle East peace. Its Foreign Ministry said Egyptian officials would not meet an Israeli delegation

(Continued on page 3)



The wreckage of a car lies in rubble near the headquarters of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in Tunis which was bombed by Israeli warplanes on Tuesday (JTV photo)

Leftist assaults break Tawheed defences

TRIPOLI (Agencies) — Pro-Syrian militiamen, pushing behind a murderous barrage of artillery and tank fire, broke through the defences of beleaguered fighters of the Islamic Unification Movement (Tawheed) in Tripoli Tuesday.

Communications said the breakthrough in the four-day leftist offensive came at dawn Tuesday, when fighters of Syrian-supported militias punched across Tripoli's northern and southern entrances to close in on the city's harbour.

Jordan calls for Arab, Islamic effort to end Tripoli violence

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan on Tuesday called for Arab and Islamic efforts to put an immediate end to the continuing violence in the northern Lebanese port city of Tripoli and to rescue inhabitants of the town who are trapped inside the city for the past several days.

In a cable he sent to Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) Secretary-General Sharifuddin Pirzada, Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri said Jordan was following up with "great distress and pain" developments in Tripoli, where fighters of the Islamic Unification Movement (Tawheed) are being besieged by rival militiamen. Mr. Masri's cable to Mr. Pirzada came in reply to an urgent message the OIC secretary-general sent to Jordan.

The OIC message conveyed an appeal by Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), Chairman Yasser Arafat to Arab and Islamic countries to intervene and seek and end to the Tripoli violence. Three densely-populated Palestinian refugee camps are located on the outskirts of Tripoli.

Mr. Masri's message said Jordan shares with Mr. Arafat "deep concern over the loss of innocent lives and the great devastation" that the fighting has brought to Tripoli.

Jordan is keen on working together with other Arab and Islamic nations to put an end to the suffering of the people of Tripoli and end the bloodshed and destruction, the cable said.

Jordan, Mr. Masri added, calls on all Arab and Islamic nations to exert their utmost efforts and cooperate to put an end to the disaster.

The communiques from the attackers' command in northern Lebanon said the "pincers onslaught" on Tripoli's port was designed to block sea arms supplies to Tawheed.

Tawheed, whose black-scarved fighters held off the leftist offensive in house-to-house combat for the last three days, conceded the leftist thrust on Tuesday in a statement read over Tawheed's radio station.

Unknown group issues new death threat against captive Soviets in Lebanon

BEIRUT (R) — A shadowy group holding four Soviet embassy officials hostage on Tuesday issued photographs of three of them with pistols at their heads and threatened to execute one of them shortly.

The colour photographs and the threat were delivered to an international news agency soon after a source close to the Soviet embassy had said the Soviets were alive in Beirut and it was hoped they would be freed in two or three days.

The statement, by the "Islamic Liberation Organisation — Ibn Al Walid Forces", said: "We will start carrying out the death sentence on the first hostage at 9:00 p.m. (1800 GMT) sharp unless the atheistic campaigns against Islamic Tripoli stop." There was no report of the threat carried out until midnight Tuesday.

The hitherto unknown group, which earlier sent photocopies of identity documents of two of the Soviets to Beirut newspapers, said it had no links with the Islamic Jihad organisation.

In a rash of conflicting claims throughout the day, anonymous callers to an international news agency said Islamic Jihad held the four men and would start executing them in the early afternoon.

Jihad holds six Americans and four Frenchmen among a total 14 other foreigners currently missing

after being abducted in Beirut. All claims about the Soviets, however, linked the kidnaps and death threats to the conflagration in Tripoli, the northern port city ringed by Syrian troops as pro-Syrian militias battle pro-Iranian Islamic fundamentalists.

"Stop the advance on Muslim Tripoli and effect the retreat of atheistic forces from around this heroic city," the Islamic Liberation Organisation said in its first statement.

"All these forces and Syria assume responsibility for the lives of these (Soviet) hostages. We shall execute them all and also strike in strength," it added.

The Soviet Union is a close ally of Syria and its main arms supplier.

The embassy identified the pictures of the three hostages issued by the Islamic Liberation Organisation as Consular Secretary Arkady Katkov, Commercial Official Valery Mirikov and embassy doctor Nikolai Svirsky.

There was no photograph of Attaché Oleg Spirine and no explanation was given.

Sources told Reuters the embassy had received news about the hostages being alive from Syrian sources.

"The embassy has not been in contact with them, but it is hoped that they will be freed in two or three days," he added.

Gorbachev arrives in Paris today

PARIS (Agencies) — The Soviet Union's drive to cultivate ties with Europe and kill the U.S. "Star Wars" project intensifies on Wednesday when Mikhail Gorbachev arrives in Paris on his first trip to the West as Soviet leader.

Mr. Gorbachev is expected to put the Kremlin's case against Washington's plans for a space missile defence and stress what Moscow sees as a special relationship with France in talks with President Francois Mitterrand and appearances in the media.

He arrives Wednesday afternoon with Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, other officials and his wife Raisa.

The four-day trip ahead of next month's summit with President Reagan is seen by Western officials as giving Mr. Gorbachev a major platform to amplify the Kremlin campaign to bring public pressure on Washington over space weapons.

Though Mr. Mitterrand has taken a tougher stand towards Moscow than any French leader for two decades, his administration is critical of the strategic defence initiative (SDI) project.

French officials say Mr. Mitterrand will avoid concentrating on "Star Wars", as SDI has been dubbed, and will make clear France's firm support for the NATO alliance.

The Soviet Union on Tuesday sharply attacked President Reagan's interview with the French newspaper Le Figaro and accused

him of trying to exert pressure on Paris ahead of Mr. Gorbachev's visit.

A commentary by the official TASS news agency said Mr. Reagan's interview, published Monday, took the form of "undisguised instructions to Paris on how it should behave in relations with Moscow."

"They in Washington would like to put blinkers on Paris in advance," TASS said, referring to Mr. Gorbachev's visit to France.

In the interview, Mr. Reagan said he intended to put blunt questions to Mr. Gorbachev on issues such as Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan, human rights and its alleged arms build-up.

Soviets finish tabling new proposal

GENEVA (AP) — U.S. and Soviet negotiators held a second extraordinary meeting Tuesday at which the Soviets finished proposing a package of drastic new arms control measures, the chief Soviet delegate said.

"It's as balanced as I am standing on my feet. It covers all three areas of the discussions and it's well-balanced," Viktor P. Karpov told reporters before the meeting at the Soviet mission to the United Nations.

The meeting between all six principal U.S. and Soviet negotiators, headed by Max M. Kampelman and Mr. Karpov, lasted one hour and 15 minutes.

Mr. Karpov said the Soviet proposals called for cuts in nuclear arsenals "as drastic as possible

nowadays." He did not elaborate.

The Soviet official said the U.S. side had not made comprehensive proposals at the Geneva talks. "So our proposals are not counteroffers. It's the proposal," he said.

Mr. Karpov said success of the negotiations would depend on the United States.

Reuters adds from Washington: U.S. officials are calling Moscow's new nuclear arms cuts proposal a one-sided plan to preserve major Soviet nuclear forces while cutting the U.S.'s.

They gave that description to the media on Monday, and Kenneth Adelman, director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, said in a television interview that parts of the plan were "blatantly and almost laughably, ludicrously one-sided."

"They have fashioned it in such a way as to blatantly preserve their forces and blatantly try to cut into our forces," he said.

"They have fashioned it in such a way as to blatantly preserve their forces and blatantly try to cut into our forces," he said.

King meets senior U.S. officials

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein, who held talks with President Ronald Reagan on Monday, continued his visit to Washington on Monday and Tuesday with meetings with other senior U.S. officials.

The King received on Tuesday Charles Percy, former chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and held a separate meeting with Senator John Warner, head of the Senate Military Committee.

The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, which reported the meetings, did not give any details of topics covered during the meetings, but it was believed that efforts for peace in the Middle East and Jordan's requirements of defensive weapons figured high in the discussions.

On Monday, the King held talks with Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger.

Later the King received President Reagan's National Security Advisor Robert McFarlane and Assistant Secretary of State John Whitehead.

The meetings were attended by Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai and Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Jaseen.

Earlier on Monday, the King conferred with Secretary of State George Shultz and reviewed current world issues and the Middle East question, Petra said.

Vice-President George Bush hosted a banquet in honour of King Hussein and the Jordanian delegation, while Mrs. Bush held a dinner in honour of Her Majesty Queen Noor, Mrs. Rifai, Mrs. Jaseen and the wife of Jordan's Ambassador to the United States Abdullah Salah.

The report of King Hussein and Mr. Reagan making progress on an international conference on the Middle East, Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat was quoted on Tuesday as saying Middle East peacekeeping efforts have reached a "dead end."

Briefing reporters on the King's talks with Mr. Reagan on Monday, a U.S. official said the two

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By William H. Durham
USIA White House Correspondent

The senior official was asked if he would now be working against a schedule on the Middle East peace process. He replied, "Yes, I'm working against a schedule. When the president speaks of the end of the year, I take that as mar-

WHAT'S GOING ON

GOING ON
collection of paintings by 19th Century

FOR THE T
QUEEN ALIA

RAVELLER

USEFUL TELE EMERGENCIES

PHONE NOS.

RAVELLER

USEFUL TELE EMERGENCIES

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USEFUL TELE EMERGENCIES

PHONE NOS.

مركز امجد الأمجد

Hussein's address to U.N. draws more public support

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein's address to the United Nations General Assembly on Friday has drawn further support from the Jordanian people in various regions. The Royal Court announced Tuesday that it had received cables of support from provincial governors, heads of municipal and village councils, presidents of organisations and trade unions and representatives of tribes and refugee camps in the Kingdom.

A cable was sent by Dr. Abdullah Al Khatib, the president of the General Union of Voluntary Societies in Jordan, who expressed the societies' support for the King's endeavours to regain the rights of the Palestinian people and his peaceful efforts to end Israel's occupation of Arab land.

Municipality to launch new projects on King's birthday

AMMAN (Petra) — Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh Tuesday announced that several projects to improve public services in the capital will be launched on Nov. 14 to mark His Majesty King Hussein's 50th birthday.

Speaking at a meeting with Amman merchants, held to organise celebrations of the occasion, Mr. Rawabdeh said that Amman Municipality will inaugurate new parks and monuments in a number of streets and public squares to mark the occasion. He also said that the municipality would be willing to assist members of the public and merchants in organising celebrations.

At the meeting a number of merchants expressed support for the municipality's efforts and said

that they will extend practical assistance to make the city attractive by decorating the streets on the occasion. A number of merchants announced that they would make donations for building monuments to commemorate the occasion. Towards the end of the meeting several committees were set up to supervise preparatory work for the celebrations.

In Tafleeh, District Governor Rabe' Al Majali chaired a meeting Tuesday to discuss arrangements for King Hussein's 50th birthday celebrations. Several district officials were present as well as representatives of the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company and the South Cement Factory. During the meeting a provisional programme was drawn up to organise celebrations on the occasion.

Jordan expresses support for Tunisia over expelled workers

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan Tuesday voiced total solidarity and support for Tunisia over the expulsion of its workers from Libya and the confiscation of their property and official documents by the Libyan authorities.

Jordan's support was contained in a cable sent by Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan to the Arab League Organisation (ALO) in which he demanded that necessary measures be taken to deal with the situation and to stop the Libyan authorities from continuing arbitrary actions against Tunisian workers.

The ALO should take action in line with international principles and laws and in the spirit of the

Arab League Charter concerning workers, the minister said in his cable.

Describing the Libyan action as repressive, the minister said that the expulsion of the workers conflicts with the concepts of Arab brotherly relations and contravenes all labour-related agreements signed between Libya and Tunisia. The expulsions also constitute a flagrant violation of basic human rights and Arab League principles, Mr. Haj Hassan said in his cable.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Development had earlier received a Tunisian memorandum complaining about Libya's actions against Tunisian nationals.

JEA completes installation of Kraimeh transformer station

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) has completed work on installing a 250 kilo volt new transformer station in the Jordan Valley town of Kraimeh. A JEA statement said that during this month the authority will install four other transformer stations to supply electricity for water pumps at a number of agricultural and irrigation projects in the valley.



Members of the group Mirage

Original sounds, techniques from talented local musicians

By Jean Claude Elias
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Of all the Jordanian bands, except for the Amman Jazz Band which exclusively plays jazz music, "Mirage" could be the group with the highest standard in the Kingdom. They will be performing on Thursday evening Oct. 3 at 6:30 p.m., at the Palace of Culture, Al Hussein Sports City in Amman.

It all started several years ago when Wael Abu Nowar and his school friends used to play for their friends and family. The present structure of the band is one year-old and includes Najla Madani on vocals and percussion, Wael on vocals, keyboard and guitar, Jamal Taher on vocals and bass guitar, and Khaled Bayyat on drums.

The most interesting aspect of Mirage is the fact that they only use original material. Musci is written by Wael and Jamal, while the lyrics, in English, come from the genuine inspiration of Wael and Jamal's sister. This point is quite mentionable since the vast majority of young Jordanian musicians are only playing music written by well-known foreign songwriters and composers.

If there ever was a need to classify Mirage's music, it should be under light rock. The influence of

groups like Pink Floyd on Wael's compositions and singing is obvious. Also, his long stay in England has certainly a lot to do with his musical visions and experience. The beautiful voice of the very young Najla Madani, who is 16 years old, is one of the important assets of the band. When listening to Mirage and their songs, one is attracted by the soft, well balanced and pleasantly toned voice of the young girl.

'Authentic oriental flavour'

Mirage has succeeded in writing Western songs and adding an authentic oriental flavour to them, while preserving the personality of the composition. Wael's recording studio in Amman has probably helped the band in obtaining a good sound, thanks to the multi-tracking technique. All their songs are recorded in this studio and Radio Jordan's FM programme has already played many of them.

Thursday's concert will be the first organised in Jordan by a local band to include the full set up usually used by international pop stars: professional light-and-sound system, video filming, dedicated mixer controller, etc.... The band is expected to prove that it does not necessarily take an English or foreign group to play good rock or pop music.



Prince Salman bin Abdul Aziz, the Emir of Riyadh, Tuesday examines files and documents during a tour of the Jordanian Academy of Arabic prior to his departure for Saudi Arabia (Petra photo)

Prince Salman tours Arabic academy, university, ends visit to Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — Prince Salman bin Abdul Aziz, Emir of Riyadh, Monday left for Saudi Arabia at the conclusion of a four-day visit to Jordan. He was seen off from Amman Airport by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahab Al Majali, cabinet members and senior officials.

Prince Hassan spoke to the press commending the brotherly ties between Jordan and Saudi Arabia and he expressed the hope that such visits between Arab leaders will further bolster Arab solidarity and help achieve economic integration among Arab states.

Before his departure, Prince Salman expressed his happiness for the visit and its outcome. The Saudi prince said that he inspected different aspects of Jordan's achievements and progress in various

fields. Prince Salman also expressed deep satisfaction regarding the current cooperation and brotherly ties hindering Jordan and Saudi Arabia.

Earlier Tuesday Prince Hassan, accompanied Prince Salman on a visit to the Jordan Academy of Arabic where they met with its president Abdul Karim Khalifa. Dr. Khalifa briefed the visitors on the activities and programmes of the institution and explained that the Jordan Academy of Arabic was helping to publish Arabic texts on Arab and Islamic culture and heritage. He added that the academy is also in the process of Arabising various scientific subjects to facilitate teaching procedures.

Prince Salman, speaking on the occasion, expressed his appreciation for the academy's work and stressed the importance of

using the Arabic language for teaching sciences in the Arab and Muslim Worlds.

Prince Hassan and Prince Salman later toured the academy and were briefed on the functions and programmes in its different sections.

Later Prince Hassan accompanied Prince Salman on a visit to the University of Jordan where they met with its President Abdul Salam Al Majali, his aides and deans. Prince Salman toured the university premises and was briefed on the various activities at the campus. Dr. Majali presented Prince Salman with the university's shield at the end of the visit.

Prince Hassan and Prince Salman were accompanied by Minister of Higher Education Nasereeddin Al Assad and other officials.

Amman prepares to train People's Army recruits

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Procedures are underway to prepare training programmes for the People's Army in Amman and its districts. Amman Governor Ali Al Bashir said Tuesday.

Mr. Bashir, the chairman of the People's Army Council, explained that the capital has been divided into administrative units based on demographic distribution to and he added that these units will handle the enlistment procedures for the People's Army.

Once a demographic study has been done, training centres will be ready to receive trainees in the capital and its outskirts, he told the Jordan Times.

Mr. Bashir declined to name a fixed date for the start of the training programmes and did not comment on the training activities and enlistment requirements.

However, he said that the training would start soon.

More than 500,000 citizens in the Kingdom between the ages of 16 and 55 will receive training in the People's Army and the majority of these recruits are from the Greater Amman Area.

Mr. Bashir pointed out that students in the second secondary class, the second year at the universities and the first year at community colleges will receive military training in their educational institutes. Female members of the population who are not students and who are between the ages of 18 and 45 can volunteer to join the People's Army, he said.

The budget for the paramilitary force, which is designed to serve as a back-up for the Jordanian Armed Forces, is provided by the army.

The first batch of People's Army volunteers began their training on Aug. 3 at military training centres in Balqa Governorate.

Balqa governor takes charge of Salt agricultural department

SALT (Petra) — Agriculture Minister Ahmad Dakqan announced here Tuesday that the Agriculture Department in Salt has been placed under the control of the governor of Balqa to enable it to carry out agricultural development projects in the governorate.

The minister said that the agricultural sector should be given due attention to enable farmers to produce most of the domestic markets' needs and to encourage them to grow new varieties of crops required for local consumption.

The minister was addressing a meeting held here to discuss the preparation of projects for the coming five-year development plan. Mr. Dakqan said that well-planned projects should be carried out to boost agricultural production. He urged the concerned authorities to help prepare an integrated working paper for the five-year agricultural plan to be implemented in Balqa Governorate, which covers the Jordan Valley region.

At the meeting, Ministry of Agriculture Under Secretary Salem Al Lawzi outlined the ministry's projects to be implemented in Balqa Governorate. Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) engineer Mohammad Abu Rummam said at the meeting that plans have been prepared for extending the East Ghor Canal by 14.5 kilometres and irrigating an additional 60,000 dunums of land. Representatives from the JVA and the Ministry of Agriculture, the Agriculture Credit Corporation and the Jordan Cooperative Organisation were present at the meeting.

Israelis bomb PLO buildings in Tunis

(Continued from page 1)

that the PLO itself certainly thought the attack was an attempt on its life.

A PLO spokesman denounced the raid as a "vile act", saying Palestinian women and children and Tunisians were its victims.

Tunisia's TAP news agency said Tunisia was appealing to the United Nations Security Council about the "cowardly attack".

The Tunisian ambassador to France, Hedi Mabrouk, said "there are lots of casualties who are not all Palestinian but belong to the civilian population."

Mr. Mabrouk strongly condemned the attack since Tunisia "rejects terrorism."

Mr. Mabrouk told French Television that Tunisia believed in dialogue.

Israeli officials, however, argued that Tunisia was responsible for harbouring the PLO.

The Israeli government did not express regret for hurting Tunisians. "We wanted to hit only PLO targets and cause no civilian casualties, but countries that harbour terrorists must realise and understand that they will suffer retaliation," Mr. Peres said.

Speaking to French Television, the Israeli ambassador to France,

Eli Sofer, said since the PLO is based in Tunis, Tunisia bears responsibility for it "according to international law."

But Mr. Mabrouk, who refused to talk with the Israeli ambassador who was in the television studio, said that Tunis houses the political headquarters of the PLO.

In Tel Aviv, Prime Minister Peres said the attack should have no effect on the Middle East peace process.

"If an attack on a terrorist command post has to stop the peace process, why shouldn't the murder of Jews put an end to the peace process?" he asked.

Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin saw U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering on Tuesday, Israeli forces radio said.

Interior minister names acting governors for Zarqa, Mafraq

AMMAN (Petra) — Interior Minister Hassan Al Kayed Tuesday appointed Mohammad Al Daba'i to serve as acting governor of Zarqa and Khaled Al Bawaliz as acting governor of Mafraq. Both men served as district governors before their districts were upgraded to governorates by cabinet decisions last month.



Mohammad Al Daba'i

The minister also appointed Fahim Nawaiseh as acting district governor of Jaser, near Karak. Abdullah Al Khasawneh as acting district governor of Mazar, near Karak. Abdul Karim Al Alajmeh as acting district governor of 'Aal and Ahmad Al Hussein as acting district governor of Basira.

A statement from the Interior Ministry said that the newly appointed governors and district governors will assume their duties as of Oct. 1st.

Following the appointments, Mr. Daba'i spoke to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, about the new governorate and its projects and programmes. He said that Zarqa is the second largest city in Jordan and that Zarqa Governorate has a population of 650,000 people with 90 per cent living in Zarqa itself and the rest in nearby Ruseifa.

Zarqa Governorate, with an estimated area of 4,732 square kilometres contains a number of tourist and archaeological sites such as Jaser Shabib, Jaser Al Hallabat, Azraq oasis, Amra and Al Jaser Al Ahmar castles in addition to wooded regions at Birein, 'Alouk and Al Shoura. Mr. Daba'i said.

Referring to the agricultural sector, Mr. Daba'i said that the governorate is divided into three district agricultural areas: The western region which depends on rain water, the eastern region which relies on water from artesian wells as well as rain water and the Zarqa River area where many types of vegetables are grown.

He said that the wooded areas are estimated at 80,822 dunums and that the main crops are wheat, barley, lentils and chick peas in addition to a variety of vegetables and fruits. Mr. Daba'i said that Zarqa Governorate now has 92

poultry farms and he added that there are a number of livestock farms raising cattle and sheep.

Referring to education, he said that there are 3,62 schools in the governorate supervised by two education officers. Mr. Daba'i also spoke about the postal, social and health services and about the work of municipalities and local councils.

Regarding the Zarqa River, Mr. Daba'i said that a comprehensive study should be conducted on the river and the adjacent land areas where several factories are located and which dump their refuse and waste in the river, causing pollution.

Jordan, Bahrain open first channel of communication via Arabsat

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and Bahrain Tuesday made their first commercial contact through Arabsat, the Arab satellite owned and operated by the Arab Satellite Communications Organisation.

Muhammad Al Hussein made the contact through a telephone call with his Bahraini counterpart Ibrahim Al-Hamed.

Both ministers exchanged congratulations on the success of the project and expressed their hope that the Arab satellite will help bolster communication services between Arab states and that it would serve as a positive element in the Arab countries' drive to achieve unity.

The opening of the line between Jordan and Bahrain represents one more step towards further strengthening bilateral relations, the minister said. Mr. Hussein noted that Jordan and Bahrain were the first two Arab countries to complete work on their ground satellite stations and to make arrangements for opening communication channels through Arabsat. The minister expressed hope that Jordan will soon be able to make contacts with Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Kuwait, Algeria, Oman, North Yemen and Djibouti through Arabsat.

Arab television stations will soon be able to exchange programmes and news via Arabsat for

a six-month trial period, the minister said. Mr. Hussein went on to say that concerned Arab states will shortly hold meetings to reconsider reducing the rate of charges on telephone communications through Arabsat.

Arab Satellite Communications Organisation Director General Ali Mashat said on the occasion that the opening of the line between Jordan and Bahrain represents the first indication of the benefits to be gained from Arabsat by Arab countries. Dr. Mashat said that the telecasting of this year's pilgrimage and ceremonies in Mecca to Arab countries through Arabsat is another achievement of the organisation.

King meets senior U.S. officials

(Continued from page 1)

leaders made some headway on how to structure an international conference on the Middle East for a solution to the Palestine problem (See page 2).

The United States and Israel have objected to holding peace talks at an international conference because that would give the Soviet Union a role in shaping the future of the Middle East.

Israel does not have diplomatic relations with Moscow, and the Soviets have provided arms to Syria and other Arab countries.

Mr. Reagan and King Hussein both have talked about holding Middle East peace negotiations under "appropriate auspices" but have differed on what that should be.

"We're not excluding anything," said a White House official, speaking privately to the AP. "We are exploring what appropriate 'international auspices' might contain. We don't want to get involved in something where Israel is made a spectator."

In an interview with the Abu Dhabi newspaper Al Ittihad, Mr. Arafat blamed the U.S. administration for the deadlock and called on the Arab states to "unify their ranks so as to confront the

American position."

"The U.S. stand is half the problem," he said, without elaborating.

Mr. Arafat's interview was conducted in Rabat, Morocco, where he conferred with King Hassan on Middle East issues. The interview was conducted before the King met Mr. Reagan on Monday.

Mr. Arafat said he did not expect British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's recent decision to receive PLO members in a peace delegation to influence the U.S. position.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, returning to Cairo from a four-nation tour which included talks with President Reagan, said on Monday he believed Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres wanted to help the Middle East peace process.

Mr. Peres said Tuesday King Hussein has not gone far enough to meet what he called Israel's demand for a declaration of non-belligerence to facilitate the start of peace talks.

Responding to King Hussein's readiness expressed in Washington Monday to negotiate peace "in an environment free of belligerent and hostile acts," Mr. Peres said the statement was no

different from Jordan's earlier position.

"It's no change. We are not talking about creating an environment, but ending the state of belligerence," Mr. Peres told the Associated Press after a speech to his Labour Party.

Israeli officials have said an unequivocal non-belligerence statement from Jordan would be a step towards starting peace talks, and that Mr. Peres has asked the United States to encourage Jordan to make such a declaration.

Mr. Peres reiterated his refusal to negotiate with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation that included members of the PLO, and said Israel preferred to talk to Palestinians who live in the occupied West Bank or the Gaza Strip.

He said Israel rejected Jordan's proposal to hold an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations Security Council because two of its five permanent members, China and the Soviet Union, do not have diplomatic relations with the Jewish state.

He also said the attitude of two others, Britain and France, was doubtful. The United States is the fifth member.

Israeli raid draws strong condemnation

(Continued from page 1)

which had been due in Cairo this week for talks on Tabu, a disputed area of Sinai.

The French External Affairs Ministry issued a statement in Paris saying the government condemned the Israeli operation "on the territory of a sovereign state, a peaceful one and a friend of France". Such an act would aggravate tension in the region, it added.

United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar also condemned the raid, a U.N. spokesman said.

In Rome, Giuliano Silvestri, Christian Democratic member of the Chamber of Deputies (Lower House) Foreign Affairs Commission, said such acts of extremism as the Israeli raid hindered Middle East peace efforts.

Official sources said King Hassan II of Morocco and Algerian Prime Minister Abdel Ibrahim Alphonse had expressed "their sympathy and solidarity with the Tunisian people as well as their consideration for its attitude in the service of the Palestinian cause."

The PLO representative in Saudi Arabia issued a statement castigating Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak for calling off the visit by the Israeli delegation in wake of the Tunis attack.

Rafiq Al Natshe said "this is the responsible and practical stand that we expect of Egypt, and which we hope will develop into full harmony with the aspirations of the Palestinian people and the Arab Nation's hopes of a United Arab stand against the arrogance and barbaric assaults of the Israeli enemy."

A key aide to Yasser Arafat said the Israeli raid was proof that the Israelis were the main obstacle to peace in the Middle East.

Farouk Kaddoumi, head of the PLO's Political Department, said the U.N. Security Council probably would be asked to consider the raid when it meets on a non-aligned request for the 15-nation body to deal with the Middle East problem, including the Palestinian question.

Mr. Kaddoumi said the Israeli air raid was "the act of criminals committed by the Israeli government... this means that the Israelis are the main obstacle in the process of peace."

The White House called the Israeli attack "legitimate retaliation against a terrorist attack."

"From our preliminary reports this, in our judgement, appears to be retaliation against a terrorist attack and is a legitimate response and an expression of self defence," presidential press spokesman Larry Speakes said.

"It is a matter of principle that it is legitimate self-defence to respond appropriately to acts of terrorism," he said.

Israel has accused the PLO of an attack on a yacht in Larnaca, Cyprus, last week that killed three Israeli citizens. The PLO has denied involvement in that attack.

State Department spokesman Charles E. Redman reaffirmed a flat U.S. denial that the Israeli warplanes flew from an American aircraft carrier.

Redman was more cautious in assessing the Israeli raid than Speakes.

"As a matter of principle, it is our view that it is legitimate self-defence to respond appropriately to acts of terrorism," Redman said. However, he added, "the United States doesn't have all the facts and so we would not make a judgement on this specific act."

At a news conference to discuss his appointment of an ambassador to Ireland, Mr. Reagan refused to comment on the Israeli raid.

Asked if U.S. planes had been used in the raid, Mr. Reagan responded: "I don't know. I don't know the facts."

Asked about a prohibition against using U.S.-built planes for offensive purposes, Mr. Reagan also refused to comment.

New crime by Israel

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Priority for peace

Al Dustour: Hope in Washington

Sawt Al Shaab: Israeli deception

King Hussein's speech was crystal clear and provided a real concept for a just peace that can only be achieved through the projected international conference.

Critics of Israel in U.S. are labelled 'crazy'

By Paul Findley

Paul Findley, for 22 years a Representative in Congress from Illinois, is author of a new book, *They Dare to Speak Out: People and Institutions confront Israel's lobby*. His article is reprinted from *Middle East International*, London.

American rabbi: Palestinians 'merely tenants', non-Jews 'all heathens'

By H. J. Skutelski

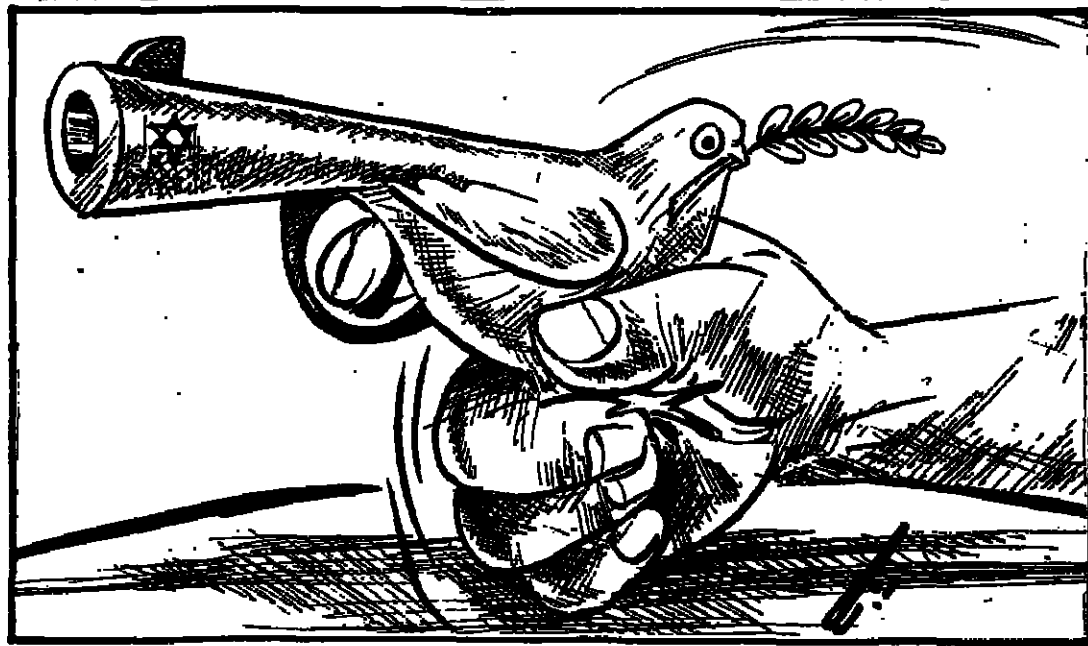
The designation meant that Hassidic entrepreneurs along with their Hispanic, black, Amerindian and Asian Pacific counterparts were now automatically eligible for federal assistance (e.g. low interest loans) and preferential "set-aside" contracts. Religious Jewry, it would seem, showed its appreciation at the polls: An election day survey by the American Jewish Congress revealed that among the four wings of U.S. Jewry (secular, Conservative, Reform, Orthodox), the latter group (comprising the Hassidim) provided Reagan with the single largest percentage of votes (48 per cent).

'Last opportunity for peace'

LETTERS

AUB alumni club is active

Farouk Sa'd Abujaber,
President,
AUB Alumni Club,
Amman.



Farouk Sa'd Abujaber,
President,
AUB Alumni Club,
Ammah

Bengali student rallies U.S. mates for overseas development

By Norma S. Holmes

CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts — "Every two seconds, a child dies of starvation somewhere in the world," says Kamal Ahmad of Harvard University. Yet, he says, "enough food is produced each year to feed every child, woman and man."

Determined to alter both the odds and statistics, Ahmad and his brother Nazir, at Stanford University, founded the Overseas Development Network (ODN) in 1984.

The Cambridge-based project to recruit U.S. college students for overseas development work is one of the fastest growing projects of its kind in the United States. It has campus chapters on both the East and West Coast, and ODN organisers say they expect to have more than 100 chapters on American college campuses by June 1986.

The strong support of the U.S. academic community is reflected in ODN's board of directors, which includes professors from five disciplines at Harvard University and Mt. Holyoke College, and the presidents of Radcliffe College and Phillips Exeter Academy. Additional to the board includes an officer of the World Bank and a former director of U.S. policy planning at the U.S. State Department.

In recognition of his work, the United Nations Development Programme last spring awarded the 19-year-old Harvard University sophomore its Peace Medal. But Ahmad was busy taking a university examination so it was accepted in his honour by the Bangladeshi ambassador to the United Nations.

"The son of a Dhaka economist and nutritionist, Ahmad says he began working on development projects in Bangladesh about seven or eight years ago when he was 13 years old. "I really can't recall what triggered my interest or involvement, but I suppose it must have had something to do with growing up in Bangladesh in the war," Ahmad says both he and his 26-year-old brother, Nazir, have traveled widely in Bangladesh and that their shared concern for development "must have come from what we've seen."

Coordination of the rapidly growing project has required a great deal of travel in the United States, he says, often to Stanford University to coordinate efforts with his brother. The 20-year-old Harvard junior plans to take the next semester off to go look at some of ODN's overseas projects.

Personal involvement is critical to the success of the Overseas Development Network, he explains. "We want to personally involve students in the challenges of the development process."

"Development simply means people organising and being involved in helping a given community sustain itself. It can mean building new roads, schools, sanitary facilities, learning new agricultural techniques, new health processes, or educational programmes for the needy. It can create new technologies to improve water access or transportation — in general do whatever is necessary to enable a community to sustain, extend and enrich life. The wider the range of projects the greater the possibilities for participation become."

ODN has created three key programmes within which projects can be shaped:

Partnership in development creates a link between American college students and specific village-based development projects. Projects sponsored by the ODN generally target the poorest of the poor and involve local initiative and management. They are also designed to become self-sufficient after the initial funding period.

Development education promotes greater public understanding of problems facing Third World nations. Education projects include newsletters and special information packages on specific areas and subjects, a speaker's bureau, conferences, a series of radio programmes, and correspondence with students in developing areas in order to better target ODN projects. "Our sense is that education in the long run is the most essential part of a changing process."

The Development opportunities clearinghouse provides specific information to college students and recent graduates about internships, research projects, and paid and voluntary positions with development organisations worldwide.

"Virtually all funds raised by students on various campuses are used to support their partner projects overseas," Ahmad says, explaining that local college chapters fund development programme projects through local fund-raising drives.

The Stanford University chapter established a partnership with "Sahika," a cooperative of self-employed women, single mothers and their families in Bangladesh. The chapter raised \$5,900 to buy sewing machines, raw goods, and



Feeding programme for flood victims, Bangladesh. Food aid can save lives, but may also create dependence and disrupt normal activities. (Photo for Earthscan Tom Learmonth)

office in Dhaka. ODN will train local students on how to run the computers and insert and retrieve data.

When the participants return to the United States, they will go on a tour of 120 American colleges and universities, telling about their experiences in trying to generate more enthusiasm and interest on the part of students elsewhere.

"We will be doing the same programme in Colombia, Kenya and Zimbabwe," Ahmad added.

For participants selected for the project, Ahmad said, 90 per cent of travel is covered and the student bears the remaining part. Living expenses are covered by the local host agency, and ODN provides an added stipend for working materials.

The development network's overall administrative organisation relies on the support and

contributions of the general public for its various intercampus and outreach programmes. Ahmad says, "A basic grant from the Hewlett Packard Foundation and many small contributions from individuals have made a great difference in what we can undertake."

But development requires far more than financial support to be successful, he points out. "We live on the feedback that we get from projects that we support, things that occur on campus every day. That is what keeps us going."

The words of a Chinese poet, Ahmad says, capture the essence of his project and the philosophy of people who sustain it:

"If you plan for a year, plant rice. If you plan for ten, plant trees. If you plan for one hundred years, educate mankind."

— U.S. Information Agency.

Soviet schools gear up for reforms

By Alan Phillips
Reuter

LENINGRAD, Soviet Union — When a new batch of seven-year-olds went to school in Leningrad in September, the event was accompanied by more than the usual ceremony which the Soviet Union attaches to the start of the school year.

For these children's school career will take them through a nationwide reform which is scheduled to transform the Soviet education system by the time they leave in 10 years time.

Outwardly, the ritual of the new educational year at a school among the drab blocks on the outskirts of the Soviet Union's second city was little changed.

The girls came dressed in white pinafores with bows in their hair, just as their grandmothers had done, and the boys were dressed in blue suits. Both carried traditional bunches of flowers for their teachers.

But they will be the last class to go to school at seven. The reform will extend compulsory education from 10 to 11 years, starting at six, as from next year.

The reform has two major aims: To produce more skilled workers to close the technology gap with the West and instill more firmly the doctrine of hard work and discipline among young people seen by the Kremlin as increasingly indifferent to Communist ideals.

Schools this year are for the first time giving two-year courses in computer science — a major step in a country where the abacus is more common than the pocket calculator.

Teachers have been given crash courses in computers, but few of the country's 150,000 schools have so far received equipment.

This attention to schools mirrors new Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's bid to revive the economy and give the country a new sense of direction after years of flabby leadership.

The reform was initiated by Gorbachev's mentor, the late President Yuri Andropov, and is due to be put into effect gradually between 1986 and 1995 — a slow timetable reflecting the scale of the task facing Soviet schools.

To underscore their determination to improve education, authorities declared September 1 always the first day at school, as "Knowledge Day" throughout the country.

Children who marched into school for the first time this month

had as their first class the newly instituted "peace lesson", aimed at reinforcing the official line that the Soviet Union wants peace and only its opponents harbour plans for war.

A key aspect of the reform is to link schools to factories. All pupils will receive regular experience in "socially useful productive work" — up to four days a week in term-time and 20 days in the summer holidays.

This aims to combat a chronic shortage of labour in Soviet industry, where automation has taken root slower than in the West, and schoolchildren's reluctance to opt for manual labour.

Though the Soviet Union prides itself on being the "first workers' state", the official press has noted children would rather go for white-collar jobs than work on the factory floor.

At the same time teachers are required to boost efforts to reinforce the ideals of Communism and patriotism and counteract tastes for pop music, fashion and consumer goods — all seen as harmful imports from the West.

A teacher should be "an ardent propagandist who knows how to win the hearts and minds of the children," according to Communist Party politburo member Gaidar Aliev.

The next generation of schoolchildren should be "patriots of the motherland, who are ready to defend it and... give a firm refusal to hostile ideology," he said.

Experts say these are not new ideals. Soviet education has always been overtly political — but reflect a measure of failure by schools to meet the Communist Party's demands.

Teachers, overwhelmingly women, were given a 35 per cent pay rise last year to encourage better staff to join what has traditionally been a poorly-paid, low-prestige job.

Overcrowding, leading to discipline problems and lack of individual attention, is one issue which the reform aims to tackle, setting a maximum classroom size of 30 for the first nine grades, and 25 thereafter.

Some parents are concerned the reform may aggravate the gulf between ordinary schools geared to produce workers and the network of special schools providing a superior education in one field — languages, science, mathematics or sport.

Admission to one of these special schools, also run by the state, gives a far better chance of entering university.

Bats: nature's persecuted pollinators

Are bats merely the pests of legend, serving no useful function and destroying fruit crops? Or are they nature's endangered pollinators, essential for the survival of tropical forests and a variety of cash crops? Anthony Hutson is Bat Conservation Officer for the London-based Fauna and Flora Preservation Society, and editor of "Bat News", the society's quarterly magazine.

LONDON — Fairy tales cast them as the harbingers of doom; fruit farmers try to exterminate them, and villagers kill them for food. Fruit bats — and their role as essential pollinators of many tropical crops — are under threat from both prejudice and over-exploitation.

Worldwide, there are nearly 1,000 species of bats, fruitbats (inhabitants of tropical regions excluding the Americas) and their larger relatives, the flying foxes. These sensitive mammals, varying from bumblebee-size to those with a two metre (six foot) wingspan, are under pressure from farmers, ranchers, tourists and hunters. All too easily they become the target of extermination campaigns which neglect the beneficial, and perhaps ecologically crucial, aspects of their behaviour.

In 1984 the government of Queensland, Australia, lifted all protection from its four species of large fruit bats, classing them as pests of commercial fruit crops. Recent studies, however, show that bats are not a serious pest of such crops — a conclusion reached time and again by a variety of studies over the past 60 years.

Fruit farmers pick their fruit when it is still green. Fruit bats prefer ripe to over-ripe fruit which has no commercial value. Australia's retrograde step is surprising, but only the latest in a series

of bat eradication campaigns in the tropics.

The fact that fruit bats pollinate tree flowers and help disperse their seeds tends to be forgotten. About 600 kinds of trees and a large number of plant species depend on bats in order to reproduce themselves. Bats are also the primary pollinators of economically important plants such as the avocado pear, bananas and figs and a variety of non-edible products.

Most bat species are highly gregarious, the population of a vast area collecting at one site each day or at certain times of the year. The huge "camps" of flying foxes, numbering up to four million, reported in Australia, would have been the total population for thousands of square kilometres. These concentrations make the bats extremely vulnerable. It is easy to kill large numbers, or to disrupt their breeding cycle or the structure of the colony.

In many areas tree or cave-dwelling fruit bats are considered good eating, and large colonies present easy pickings. Over-exploitation is becoming increasingly common as commercial firms take over from local hunters. Large bat colonies which roost in southeast Asian caves are important for local economies.

Their guano is collected for fertiliser, while the bats themselves have been carefully harvested for

meat. But mass exploitation now endangers the bats and local economies alike.

In the Middle East, misguided concern for fruit crops has led to the gassing or dynamiting of large cave colonies. There is no telling how many fruit bats, other bats and unique cave faunas have been destroyed in this way.

The Americas have fruit and nectar bats which are unrelated to those found in the tropics of Asia and Africa, or in Europe. American agave plants (succulents of the aloe family, some of which are used to produce alcoholic drinks like tequila) are declining through over-exploitation, and with them the bat that feeds on them.

But not all bats are innocuous. Blood-feeding vampire bats of Central and South America can debilitate cattle and may carry the rabies virus. Vampire control is sometimes considered necessary, but no system has yet met with universal approval. While the dynamiting and poisoning of thousands of caves is ineffective and environmentally destructive, other methods, such as the use of anticoagulants applied to the bats, are still in the research stage.

Cave bats are also threatened in temperate regions. The Netherlands has a vast series of partially-destroyed limestone tunnels which are home to 3,000 bats. A series of mines in Poland, the hibernation site for 20,000 bats, is a proposed dumping ground for nuclear waste. Thousands of cave and underground sites are made unavailable to bats by blocking for safety reasons, by the



The Rodrigues Fruit Bat: this sociable pollinator of tropical crops is under threat from man (photo by J.B. Carroll/Jersey Wildlife Preservation Trust)

dumping of refuse, or following increased activity of cave explorers.

Most bats, and all temperate bats, feed on insects. Large bat colonies will consume tonnes of insects in the course of a year. Some countries, the Netherlands being the first, for this reason passed bat protection laws as long as 100 years ago.

In Texas at the beginning of this

century, bat towers were developed to encourage bat colonies. It was claimed that the tower-dwelling colonies reduced the incidence of malaria by feeding on the disease-carrying Anopheles mosquito. A number of experiments claimed similar results, or pointed to a reduction in fruit pest problems.

Subsequently bat roosting boxes were developed to reduce

problems of insect pests in commercial woodland. Though the value of such projects has since been questioned, extermination of bats is rarely justified. They are frequently beneficial, rarely a nuisance, and on the evidence available, generally should not be regarded as pests. But they still suffer from the combined and deadly weapons of fear and prejudice — Earthscan feature.

Cuba defends its world-famous Havana cigars

Cuba is seeking to expand the export of its world-famous Havana cigar, says Frank Gray, recently in the island's capital. But problems with the EEC loom...

CUBA'S agriculture ministry is seeking new initiatives abroad in order to safeguard exports of tobacco and tobacco products, particularly the island's world-famous Havana cigars.

The initiative comes in the face of numerous natural disasters and man-made problems in recent years which are hampering the country's tobacco trade. It takes place alongside a change in Cuba's trade policy, which is now aimed at encouraging more ties with Western nations and boosting hard-currency earnings.

The country's tobacco exports, of which cigars are the main part, are in a good season, worth about 3 per cent of Cuba's overall exports of Pesos 5.5 billion (\$5.85 billion).

Good seasons, however, have been in short supply in recent years. In the 1979-80 harvest, some 95 per cent of the crop was lost to the "blue mould" which ravaged tobacco harvests throughout the Americas. A full recovery the following season gave way to extensive hurricane damage in 1981-82 and 1982-83.

The harvests of last year and this year have returned to normal, which is welcome news to Western cigar importers, most of whom are in Spain, the U.K. and Switzerland.

However, the recovery is looking short-lived as Spain prepares

to enter the EEC next January.

When that happens, the preferential tariff Cuban cigars have enjoyed in Spain will give way to the much higher rate that applies to such trade with the U.K., where Cuban cigar sales fell sharply following British accession to the EEC in 1973.

Essentially the problem facing both Spain and Cuba is that any cigar imported into Spain, other than from the Lome Convention countries, mainly former European colonies, will face a progressively applied 41 per cent increase in duties following the country's EEC accession.

European cigar importers reckon this will seriously impinge on Spain's estimated annual intake of 50 million Cuban cigars, which is about one-third of what Cuba reports to be its worldwide market.

Nearly all of Spain's imports are of the machine-made variety, considered to be well below the standard of the famous "hecho-a-mano" (handmade) marques from Havana, Britain, with an intake of 5 million a year, is thought to be the chief importer of the latter.

Cuban trade officials in London said recently that what is being sought is a workable joint venture with tobacco interests in Spain for the production of popular-grade cigars made of imported Cuban

tobacco.

Such a move would circumvent EEC duties on Cuban cigars, and would give the Cuban authorities a much-needed export outlet for a staple product. It would be similar to that which they have enjoyed with Canada for several decades in which raw, all-Cuban tobacco is used for cigar manufacture.

Cuba already has the benefit of joint-venture experience, having for some years been tied in with Spanish interests in the Canary Islands, where Cuban black tobacco is used in the production of cigarettes for the Spanish market.

The joint-venture company is called Tabacanarias, in which BAT of the U.K. has a minority interest.

In the view of cigar importers, the initiative shown by the Cubans is refreshing given the country's poor harvests and erratic deliveries.

A recent sign of this was a Cuban government challenge to the use of the Havana name by foreign tobacco concerns. This resulted in a Belgian court prohibiting a Brussels company from using the name on Belgian-produced cigars. For the most part it has been the importers themselves who have had to take such actions.

One early proposal, which was greeted with almost universal horror, was to abolish the famous old company names and pool them into one company producing a kind of "people's" cigar. This would have fractured trading relations built up over more than a century with companies such as Knight Brothers of the U.K.

It is generally thought that the taste for good cigars exhibited by President Castro and his colleague, the late Che Guevara, prevented the move. Today most of the old companies, bearing such names as H. Upmann, Romeo Y Julieta, Ramon Allones, Monte Cristo, Punch and Partagas are still producing cigars in their original premises in Havana. Several new marques have been added since then, such as Davidoff, named after the Swiss shipper, and Cohiba, named after the Indians found smoking rolled tobacco at the time of the Spanish conquest.

Still, the loss of the U.S. market owing to the U.S. trade embargo, the growing strength of the anti-smoking lobby and the popularity of cheap cigars and cheroots — known as "sticks" in the trade, a term never applied to Cuban cigars — has cut into the overall trade in Havanas, remarks Mr. Walter Kahn, managing director of Joseph Samuel, a U.K. importer.

U.K. sales of "sticks" are put at 1.4 billion per year, compared with 5 million Havanas, though admittedly Cuban cigars are sold to an entirely different market sec-

tor at prices ten to 30 times higher per cigar. Some 35 million Cuban cigars were sold in the U.K. in 1979.

Competition also has arisen from medium-quality marques from the U.S., the Netherlands and Jamaica, but as Mr. Kahn points out, there is no comparison in quality. "It has to do with the soil in Cuba, which has the same effect on tobacco that soils in certain chateau vineyards in France have on the production of vintage grapes. For example, the Jamaicans produce good binder and filler, but no country produces a wrapper (the vital outer leaf) like Cuba."

The move to offshore volume production as suggested by the proposed Spanish venture is not seen as a threat to the top-of-the-market shippers, whose products will remain protected by the famous 1912 legislation which specifies that the contents of a container of cigars bear the "Exported from Havana" seal. In fact, Hunters and Frankau of the U.K. are adding some Cuban machine-made cigars to their range, which they are marketing under their own label. But what is vital is the continuity of production and supply.

"To make a good Havana cigar," said a Hunters and Frankau representative, "you need tobacco from three harvests. It is that which separates 'vintage' Havanas from the rest" — Financial Times news feature.

New York exhibits M.E. art

SOME OF THE finest examples of ancient Near Eastern art is back on view at the Metropolitan Museum in New York following an absence of 16 years, the Christian Science Monitor reports.

Art critic Theodore F. Wolff recently visited the works, which comprise a substantial portion of the museum's collection of ancient Near Eastern art. They have been reinstalled in a handsome new gallery on the second floor.

"Everything, including pre-Islamic works from Mesopotamia and ancient Iran, as well as selected objects from Anatolia, Syria and Saudi Arabia, is chronologically displayed," Wolff reports. He describes the selections as "broad and first rate. They guarantee an informative viewing experience to anyone willing to devote time to them."

Among the most impressive items, according to Wolff, are 9th century Assyrian reliefs from the palace of Assurnasirpal II at Nimrud, Iraq. He describes them as constituting "the most imposing display of high art to be found anywhere in this museum. Not only is every piece a powerful statement in and of itself, but the collective style through which each artist projected his individual energy, and toward which he owed his primary creative allegiance, is incredibly rich, elegant, and sophisticated." — USA

Archaeologists claim Europeans destroyed Maya civilisation

By Warren E. Leary
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Archaeologists who unearthed the undisturbed graves of two Maya rulers who died 1,000 years apart said Sunday their discovery contradicts the notion that ancient Central American civilisation declined before the Spanish conquest.

The intact skeletal remains of high-ranking officials and accompanying artifacts show the Mayans retained an advanced political and economic system up to the time European contact destroyed them, the scientists said.

"A sophisticated civilisation flourished right up to the invasion of the Spanish conquistadors in the 16th century," they said in a report to the National Science Foundation, which supported the work and announced the discovery.

Drs. Diane Z. Chase and Arlen F. Chase, a husband-wife team of anthropologists from the University of Central Florida, said the burial places found in Belize last month are strong evidence the Maya culture was not in decline during its final centuries from 1350 to 1530, when the Spanish arrived.

"During this historic period, most native Americans were killed by disease brought over from Europe," Diane Chase said in a telephone interview. "There were massive epidemics, and some say as much as 90 per cent of some populations died of disease."

Because entire native American empires fell to so few Spaniards, some historians argue that the civilisations which built huge pyramids and stone cities in Central and South America had fallen into decadence and decay by the time the Europeans arrived.

During its height between 300 A.D. and 900 A.D., known as the classic period, the Maya empire covered much of what is today Mexico, Belize and Guatemala, and parts of Honduras and Nicaragua.

At a site called San Rita, on a sea bluff which circles Corozal, the third-largest urban area in Belize, the scientists found a large stone tomb and an earthen grave less than a mile (2 km) apart. The ornate 1,500-year-old

tomb, containing the remains of a Maya king, was discovered under the floor of what was once a large building.

The skeleton lay on its back, resting on the debris of a wooden pallet. It wore jade ornaments, including a set of jade and mica-inlaid earflares, large earring-like jewelry that covered the entire ear, they said.

The tomb also contained dozens of items representing status and office, including painted pottery and masks. The finest object, the researchers said, was a limestone bowl with four finely carved panels depicting a deity.

The other burial site was that of a provincial ruler who reigned more than 500 years ago. This was a simple grave in the ground beneath a small shrine consisting only of several lines of stones, they said.

While the site was stark when compared with the older tomb, the remains were adorned with elaborate jewelry, including a pair of gold earflares inlaid with turquoise and jade, a necklace of shell and jade, and a bracelet of red sea shells not native to the area.

Arlen Chase said the discovery is the first find of remains of a ruler of the late postclassic period, spanning 1350 to 1530, and that the discovery shows there were both commerce and authority at the time.

This importance is further implied by the presence of a second body in the grave. The unadorned individual was a sickly, elderly person whom the researchers think may have been involved in a blood-letting sacrifice for the dead ruler.

The second body was riddled with 13 string-ray spikes and a long copper needle, all used in ritual blood-letting by the Mayan elite, they said.

Diane Chase said the study of postclassic Maya culture is at a turning point, with new archaeological evidence casting doubt upon the written records of the Spanish concerning the Maya and the presumptions of some scholars.

"The first thing people notice is the classic (period) society, with its big pyramids and fine cities," she said.

Karpov forces Kasparov to slow pace in game 11

MOSCOW (R) — Challenger Garry Kasparov, seeking victory to draw level with titleholder Anatoly Karpov in their world chess rematch, was held to a slow start Tuesday in game 11 after sharp and aggressive play in their last encounter.

A crowd of over 1,000 people were at the Tchaikovsky Concert Hall in Moscow to watch what experts said was a critical game for Kasparov. 22, if he was to rekindle his bid to become the youngest champion in chess history.

Karpov, leading the challenger by 3½ to 4½ points in the 24-game series, played the Nimzo-Indian Defence, eliciting a variation from Kasparov which he used in game seven. That game was drawn after exceptional complications.

Karpov, 34, varied from game

seven on his fifth move, reaching a middle-game position in which Kasparov, playing white, accepted a weak pawn in order to win greater activity for his pieces.

Experts said Kasparov had returned to form in game 10, and needed to press hard in this game, the last in the first half of the series in which he has the advantage of white.

Karpov had not arrived on stage when Kasparov's time-clock was pushed, indicating he should open play. Despite this breach of etiquette the challenger made no

move and merely asked Chief Arbitrator Vlasov Mikenas to find his opponent.

Mikenas drew a laugh from the audience by peeping behind the backstage curtains that veil the players' rest areas. Karpov then emerged and Kasparov opened play.

Although the challenger's conduct showed exemplary sportsmanship, it cost him several minutes on the clock. The incident hinted at the psychological tactics which are increasingly in evidence in the series.

Karpov has built up his lead with two wins, one loss and seven draws. Since he keeps his title in the event of a 12-12 tie, Kasparov will have to establish a margin of two victories over Karpov in the remaining games.

AEK 'will play like lions'

MADRID (R) — AEK Athens visit the most intimidating soccer stadium in Europe Wednesday with a 1-0 first-leg lead but precious little optimism of knocking Real Madrid out of the UEFA Cup.

A single-goal advantage is seldom enough in the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium, where Real, the UEFA Cup holders, have a glittering history of heroic deeds in European competition.

AEK's Polish coach Jacek Gmoch is under no illusions about the likely outcome and admitted: "Our hopes are minimal... but we will play like lions."

Despite an injury worry over international striker Emilio Butragueno, Real's powerful new-look line-up should have little difficulty in reaching the second round.

Butragueno, who has formed an

exciting partnership with Mexican Hugo Sanchez, signed from city rivals Atletico during the close season, suffered a serious shin injury during the 1-1 draw at Zaragoza on Sunday and his chances of playing are 50-50.

With their two other new acquisitions — Spanish internationals Rafael Gordillo and Antonio Maceda — also settled in, Real have made a promising start to the season and trail league leaders Athletic Bilbao by just one point.

The one problem facing Real could be a lack of atmosphere in the Bernabeu Stadium because the visit of AEK has failed to arouse much interest among Real's massive following.

But if the glorious summer weather continues, a good turnout is expected and AEK may find the whole experience an awesome one.

UEFA to enforce total ban on alcohol at European club matches

BERNE (R) — Any club that ignores a recent edict banning the sale of alcohol at European club matches will have to face the consequences, the European Football Union (UEFA) said Tuesday.

UEFA revised its rules under "Order and Security in the Stadiums" and introduced a total ban on alcohol following riots which cost 39 lives in last May's European Cup final between Liverpool and Juventus in Brussels.

On Monday manager Willi Lemke on West German league leaders Werder Bremen said the club would ignore the ban and beer would be on sale as usual when Bremen meet Chernomorets Odessa of the Soviet Union in Wednesday's UEFA cup tie.

UEFA's disciplinary committee

spokesman Rene Eberle told Reuters: "We are aware of Werder Bremen's intentions from press reports but we are not going to intervene on the basis of such reports. The new rules are subject to the disciplinary authority of UEFA and sanctions will be imposed in case of non-observance. We will wait and see what happens."

Werder Bremen said later that they had decided not to sell beer after all at Wednesday's match.

"We obviously had difficulties interpreting the rules," Lemke said. Eberle said that in the 64 first round first leg matches in the three European club competitions there had been only one report of alcohol being sold in a stadium, and an investigation showed that it was

non-alcoholic beer. All other West German clubs in European competitions have said they will comply with the new regulations designed to improve crowd control and avoid a repetition of the Brussels tragedy.

Matches are now divided into two classes. "High risk" games (category A) include final and semi-final ties of the three UEFA club competitions. All other matches are considered as "normal risk" games (category B).

Lemke had said that as he understood the rules, the match was not a high risk one, and alcohol could be sold.

But according to the new booklet "Order and Security in the Stadiums — Category B Matches", the ban on alcohol clearly applies to both categories.

USOC accused of mis-spending funds

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. Olympic Committee is hoarding more than \$42 million in government-raised funds instead of spending it to train athletes for the 1988 Olympics in Seoul, a senior congressman charged Tuesday.

Democratic representative Frank Annunzio, father of the law

that financed the 1984 team through sales of gold and silver Olympic coins, made the charge in releasing a U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO) audit of the committee.

"Congress did not establish a coin programme so that the United States Olympic Committee

could sit back and clip coupons," Annunzio, chairman of a house of representatives banking subcommittee, said.

If a plan is not developed by the end of the year to use the money for athletes, he said he would introduce legislation to get the non-government Olympic committee to return the funds to the U.S. Treasury.

"The money is to be used, not hoarded, and if it is not, it must be returned," Annunzio said.

But, Don Miller, president of the U.S. Olympic Foundation, handling the funds, denied the charge. He told Reuters that funds were being invested and interest used to assist athletes not only for the 1988 Games but for future years.

Miller, who retired as head of the Olympic committee to become president of the National Olympic Foundation, said that the law governing the coin sales is being followed carefully.

"Of 163 countries, we are the only one with no government subsidy," he said. "Therefore it is prudent for us to husband those monies (from the coin sale) to serve the needs of athletes for many years to come."

Annunzio's assistant, Curtis Friss, told Reuters, "It was the hope that the coin sales could be ongoing to train athletes and not for cocktail parties and blazers for Olympic officials."

S.African opposition appeals for boycott of Grand Prix

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South Africa's largest internal anti-apartheid group appealed to racing drivers Tuesday to boycott the South African Grand Prix on October 19.

United Democratic Front (UDF) National Treasurer Azhar Cachalia told Reuters in a telephone call from a secret location that the UDF opposed international sporting contacts with

South Africa. "We appeal to all drivers from foreign countries not to take part, especially because there is a state of emergency in force and the situation is volatile," he said.

Most leaders of the two-million-strong UDF are in prison or on bail facing treason charges. The government accuses the group of fomenting 20 months of riots in which 725 people died.

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E.Germany's Hohn may be too good

Long throws force rule change to ensure spectator safety

CANBERRA (R) — East Germany's world javelin record holder Uwe Hohn stunned spectators Tuesday by repeatedly hurling a javelin past the 98-metre mark in training for this weekend's World Cup Athletics.

"I don't know what he's got but I wish we had it too," assistant manager Ray Rose of the Oceania team said as he watched in amazement.

"His technique isn't anything special compared to our throwers but somehow he is in a class of his own."

The young East German, a firm favourite to win the world cup event, made his mark last year when he became the first and so far only man ever to throw the 800-gram javelin past 100 metres — with a massive lunge of 104.80 metres.

His nearest rivals are still more than five metres behind. Hohn also hit the 70-metre peg Tuesday with just a standing throw — leaving Rose to walk off in disbelief.

But the days of the 100-metres-plus throw could be numbered.

The world cup will be the last major competition in which today's standard javelin will be used.

Because of Hohn's big throws, the International Amateur Athletics Federation (IAAF) ruled that from next year the competition javelin will have its point of gravity changed so it won't travel so far.

Ailing Barcelona hopes to halt slide

BARCELONA, Spain (R) — Barcelona, out of sorts in the league and haunted by their last European soccer appearance in the Nou Camp Stadium, will be looking for a return to form against Sparta Prague in the Champions' Cup Wednesday.

Having gained a 2-1 first leg lead in Czechoslovakia, Barcelona appear well placed to reach the second round — providing they have put the nightmare of last season's Cupwinners' Cup defeat by Metz firmly behind them.

Barcelona were on the receiving end of a stunning defeat 12 months ago when, after beating Metz 4-2 in France, they promptly lost 4-1 at home in the first round. The Spanish champions, beset by injury problems, have made a

miserable start in the league and Sunday's 2-1 defeat at Athletic Bilbao left them with just four points from five games.

Bernard Schuster and Steve Archibald both missed the match in Bilbao through injury, and although the Scottish striker may return against Sparta, the West German midfielder is definitely out.

Sparta Prague have also been struggling to recapture last year's form and they fell to seventh in the Czechoslovak first division after losing to league leaders Olomouc

at the weekend. "Mentally, Barcelona are probably as badly off as we are," admitted Sparta manager Jan Zachar.

But that view is not shared by Barcelona coach Terry Venables, who said: "If the team keeps playing with such energy, we will soon be up among the league leaders."

Sparta manager Jan Zachar will probably make two changes to his first-leg line-up with Jarolin and Prochazka replacing Bezmoska and Nobak.

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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling	1.4050/60	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3640/45	Canadian dollars
	2.6735/45	West German marks
	3.0125/50	Dutch guilders
	2.1835/50	Swiss francs
	8.1550/1600	Belgian francs
	1804/1806	French francs
	216.65/80	Italian lire
	8.0400/0500	Japanese yen
	7.9500/9600	Swedish crowns
	9.7225/7325	Norwegian crowns
One ounce of gold	322.00/322.50	Danish crowns
		U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities closed just below their midmorning highs, generally falling off through lack of support after a firm start in response to Wall Street, dealers said. At 1430 Tuesday the FTSE 100 index was up 4.6 to 1294.6 after a high of 1295.6.

Hanson Trust closed 7p higher at 203, helped by news that its purchase of about 25 per cent of SCM's shares was found lawful by a U.S. court, dealers said. ICI moved against the general trend, easing 7p to 657. Vickers closed 8p up at 301 after a high of 308 while Glaxo was up 15p to 1310 after 1313.

Government bonds closed with 1/8 point gains reflecting steady sterling. North Americans were steady and golds lower.

Building Contractors moved up after a press report of a government survey showing some £20 billion is required to restore Britain's housing stock to good condition, dealers said. Wimpey closed 6p higher at 126 and Taylor Woodrow 5p up at 461.

Record retail U.K. sales figures for August Monday lifted retailers with Burton closing 15p higher at 551 and British Home Stores up the same amount to 515.

Banks were mostly lower on continuing worries over foreign debt although Nigeria's declaration of a state of economic emergency was not seen by some analysts as contributing greatly to Tuesday's easier trend. Lloyds was down 8p to 404.

Nigeria declares state of economic emergency

Lagos (R) — Nigerian President Ibrahim Babangida, who seized power in a coup just over a month ago, Tuesday declared a state of economic emergency in the West African nation for the next 15 months.

He said in a broadcast on the 25th anniversary of independence from Britain: "During this period we aim to visibly turn around the economy and lay a solid foundation for a healthier long-term development."

Nigeria has about \$20 billion of foreign debt, rising inflation and unemployment and low agricultural output. It depends on a weak oil market for hard currency to pay for vital imports.

President Babangida said he would announce a programme for the country's political future next year, but gave no details. Analysts have regarded such remarks in the past as a hint of a return to civilian rule.

He made it clear that economic recovery was the immediate priority and prepared Nigerians for more austerity.

President Babangida said the emergency period would mean belt-tightening similar to that experienced during the Nigerian civil war between 1967 and 1970.

he said. Nigeria would end the practice of trading oil for consumer goods and food started by the previous government led by Major-General Mohammad Buhari, he said.

The government would look into whether oil could be used to finance industrial and technological development, the new Nigerian leader went on.

He said a plan to allow people to open foreign currency bank accounts would go ahead immediately to try to boost the country's low foreign currency reserves.

The government would raise funds by selling off its holdings in state-run companies and agencies, starting with hotels, breweries and distilleries, he added.

Priority would be given to encouraging agriculture and rice and maize imports would be banned as part of a move towards self-sufficiency.

"The task of restructuring the economy is an onerous one," he said. "The measures I have just announced... indicate the government's recognition of the urgency of the situation and the need to take concrete action now."

Jordanian insurance firms merge

AMMAN (R) — Two Jordanian insurance companies, with a combined capital of \$1 million, merged Tuesday in a move financial sources said was motivated by intense competition in a restricted insurance market.

The Arab International Insurance Company, set up in 1973 with 32 per cent Lebanese equity merged with the Arab Union Insurance Company, established in 1976 with about 10 per cent Syrian participation.

A seven-man committee appointed by the trade and industry ministry will run the restructured company for the two months expected to be needed to complete merger formalities, the two firms said.

The merger is the first in the insurance sector since the government passed a law last November to regulate and strengthen the insurance market, which has an annual turnover of about 25 million dinars (\$66 million).

Jordan has 33 insurance firms, including several partly foreign owned. The new law required them to raise paid-up capital to 600,000 dinars (\$1.6 million) by November next year and deposit 275,000 dinars (\$730,000) with the government and in local shares and bonds.

Industry sources said the insurance business last year was poor because of the worldwide economic downturn and some of the firms suffered losses or made only small profits.

U.S. to buy Iraqi oil

BAGHDAD (OPECNA) — The United States is to import Iraqi crude, though quantities and delivery dates remain to be announced.

U.S. assistant secretary of commerce, Mr. James Kelly, told a local newspaper Monday that more than 20 American companies would take part in the 22nd Baghdad international fair opening Nov. 1.

Mr. Kelly, who held talks here with Iraqi officials, described their outcome as "very encouraging" referring to the accord on economic and scientific cooperation signed by the two sides.

He said Iraq would be able to make use of American agricultural expertise, particularly in land reclamation.

Egypt raises oil prices

CAIRO (OPECNA) — Egypt is to raise its oil prices by between 25 and 45 cents a barrel for October — reflecting an improvement in market demand.

The increases, the second in two months, will push up the price of Egypt's top-quality Suez blend crude by 45 cents to \$26.10 a barrel.

Other crudes will be fixed at prices ranging between \$23.50 and \$25 a barrel.

GATT meets to tackle world commerce problems

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The Sept. 30 meeting of GATT trade ministers "represents a test of will" of the countries represented to confront global trade problems and prepare for negotiations to deal with them, according to a high-level U.S. trade official.

Mr. Charles H. Blum, assistant U.S. trade representative for multilateral trade negotiations, told a Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee Sept. 25 that the United States will be "open to discussion of any issue without preconditions" at the meeting of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

The United States requested the meeting after some developing countries blocked the efforts of industrial countries at a GATT council meeting in July to reach consensus in moving toward a new round of multilateral trade talks.

India and Brazil had wanted to limit discussions at the meeting to trade in goods, leaving the question of trade in services for a separate meeting.

Mr. Blum said that over two-thirds of the 90 GATT member countries, representing 94 per cent of GATT trade and 80 per cent of world trade, agreed with the U.S. proposal to hold the meeting "to discuss the possible subject matter and organization details of new multilateral trade negotiations."

"We believe that this strong level of support reflects widespread concern on the part of our trading partners — both developed and developing — that the system is not functioning well and needs to be improved," he said.

"Obviously, each country has its own interests and priorities. The way to resolve differences among them is to negotiate — and that's what the GATT is for."

The U.S. effort to launch a new round of negotiations is a major part of the Reagan administration's newly announced trade policy aimed at heading off protectionist legislation by Congress.

In his Sept. 23 speech outlining the policy, Mr. Reagan said "to reduce the impediments to free markets, we will accelerate our efforts to launch a new GATT negotiating round with our trading partners, and we hope that the GATT members will see fit to reduce barriers to trade in agricultural products, services, technologies, investments, and in mature industries."

"If these negotiations are not initiated or if insignificant progress is made, I am instructing our trade negotiators to explore regional and bilateral agreements with other nations," he added.

At the congressional hearing, Mr. Douglas McMinn, assistant secretary of state for economic and business affairs, said that in any new negotiations "we are prepared to put all of our existing barriers on the table in order to have the most comprehensive negotiation possible."

However, Mr. Blum said that it is too early to say what the United States is willing to offer to get concessions from its trading partners, because the administration has "only a dim appreciation" of what

antagonous exchange of concessions within the framework of multilateral trade talks.

— The complexity of issues regarding trade in services might require negotiations to be conducted on a sector-by-sector basis. In the short term, an agreement that would include the principles of transparency (providing public notice when an action is to be taken) and prevent the establishment of new barriers to trade in services is recommended.

Negotiators will likely need to agree to some form of preferential treatment for developing countries in order to bring them into the negotiating process in services.

Meanwhile, the Commonwealth secretary general said Tuesday the world economy was heading for serious trouble, with huge U.S. budget deficits stoking protectionism and threatening the international recovery.

In a speech at the official opening ceremony of the annual Commonwealth finance ministers meeting, Mr. Shridath Ramphal called for an imaginative and generous new approach from the international community to tackle the world debt crisis.

He said the recovery was looking decidedly shaky and that further deprivation in developing countries could lead to political instability.

The 49-nation Commonwealth declared a year ago that the world's financial system was on a knife-edge. This had been dismissed by many industrialised countries then as alarmist, but the crux of the problem remained unsolved, he added.

Finance ministers gathered in Male at the weekend but Tuesday marked the first of two days of formal talks.

Mr. Ramphal said last month's agreement by the finance ministers of the United States, West Germany, France and Japan to take coordinated action to push down the value of the U.S. dollar might help ease protectionist pressures for a while.

But he added: "It cannot do so on a sustained basis unless the underlying cause of the high dollar, the U.S. budget deficit, is itself removed."

Mr. Ramphal said industrialised countries were largely talking to themselves. "The developing world is becoming peripheral to their thinking," he said. "At a time when the need for a global perspective is intellectually unquestionable, some leading industrialised countries have opted for blinkers."

Mr. Ramphal said debt repayments were straining at birth efforts by developing countries to rebuild their shattered economies.

The president of the Maldives, Mr. Maumoon Abdul Gayoom, told the conference the world's smallest countries and sub-Saharan Africa faced a desperate and worsening economic plight.

He urged the ministers to press for reforms when they went to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank annual meeting in Seoul on Thursday.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, OCT. 2, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: During the day you can find some new ways to bring to yourself the many pleasures and good things of life that you desire, as well as handle property interests.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Look to some good friend who can assist you when some unexpected trouble arises and show gratitude. Drive with care.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Expressing good will for one who is a close tie, you can gain fine benefits, also of a romantic nature.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Look for the right ideas for handling a private affair from a trusted advisor. Later get out with congenials for a good time.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Gain the support of good friends if you want to put over some worthy new enterprise, also in personal affairs.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You are highly inspired and can be very successful if you put your ideas to work promptly now. Contact people for more information.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Good day to get problematical affairs of a practical nature solved nicely and forget all that daydreaming.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You are able to understand what a close tie really wants from you and can do much to please. Keep promises made.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Fine day for coming to an agreement with those who are usually recalcitrant and make the future brighter thereby.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Early get into work ahead of you. Handle it in such a fashion that you get excellent results. Be kind at home.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Plan recreation you want to have in the next few days with congenials. Then get busy on practical matters.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Listen to the wishes of kin and try to please them more at this time. Remember that charity begins at home.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Discuss with outside partners how you can become more prosperous and be more direct with them.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be very practical in all things, so slant the education along business lines and there can be much success during the lifetime. Early give good ethical and moral training to balance the materialistic nature.

Shipping losses rocket due to Iraq-Iran war

LONDON (AP) — The world shipping fleet suffered its highest gross tonnage losses since World War II last year, with nearly half the losses blamed on the Iran-Iraq war, Lloyds register of shipping said in an annual report released Tuesday.

A total of 327 merchant ships above 100 gross tonnes were lost, and 525 people were killed or are missing, with the largest vessels most at risk in the northern Gulf, according to Lloyds register of shipping casualty for 1984.

Only 14 ships were reported lost in the Gulf, wracked by five years of war between Iran, and Iraq, but they accounted for 48 per cent of the 2.35 million gross tonnes in losses, the report said.

The largest ship lost was the Minotaur, a Cyprus steam tanker damaged 64 kilometres southwest of Bushin on the Iranian coast and later sold for demolition in Taiwan.

Of eight ships exceeding 100,000 gross tonnes, seven were lost in the Gulf, the report said. Six others vessels were destroyed by mines off Nicaragua, in the Red Sea and off Angola, it said.

Lloyds defines a total loss as a ship beyond recovery or broken up after being damaged. Of the total, 131 ships foundered, 57 were wrecked or stranded, 67 were destroyed by fire or explosions, 35 suffered collisions, seven struck objects other than ships, four were classified as missing and 24 were lost, mainly from war damage.

At the end of 1984, the world shipping fleet totalled 76,422 ships or 419.87 million gross tonnes, Lloyds said. The world fleet reached a peak of 424.7 million gross tonnes in 1982.

Job opportunities could be cut as the number of young people of working age rose, as the possibilities for emigration narrowed and as migrant workers returned home, the ILO director-general told a conference of Asian and Pacific labour ministers here.

Mr. Blanchard said the problems of developing countries remained enormous despite dramatic progress.

The struggle to eliminate poor working conditions, promote greater equality and expand opportunities for productive work depended on redoubled efforts by every country of the international community, he said.

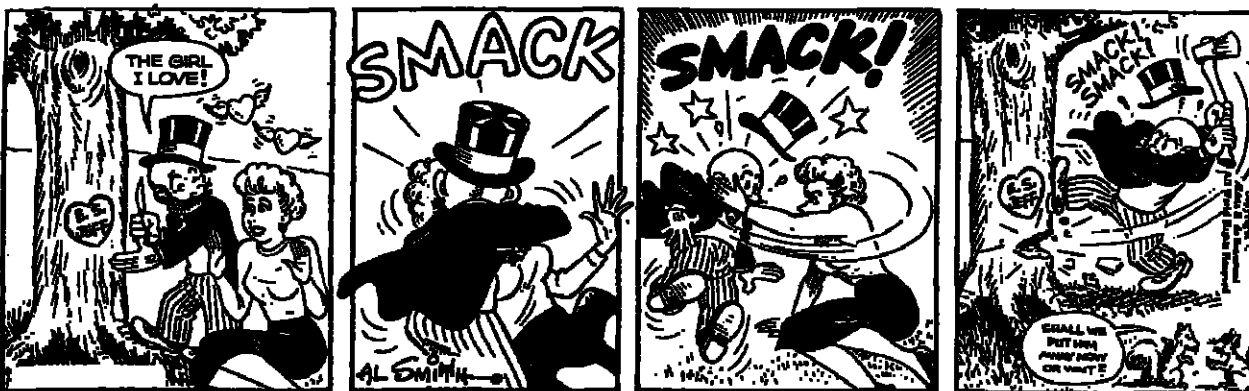
These efforts should be aimed both at attacking their own problems and giving renewed vigour to international cooperation.

More than 120 delegates from 28 countries are attending the four-day conference, a biennial forum for discussing regional labour issues.

Peanuts



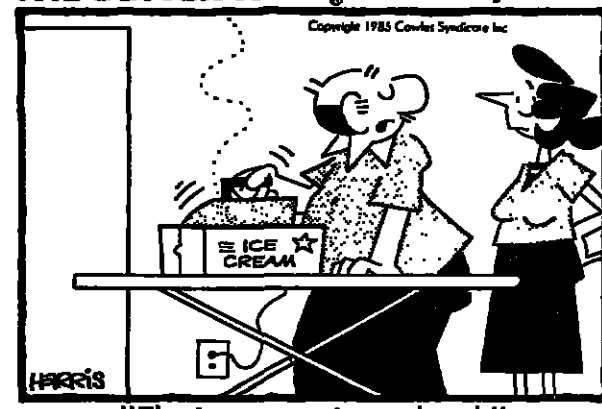
Mutt 'n' Jeff



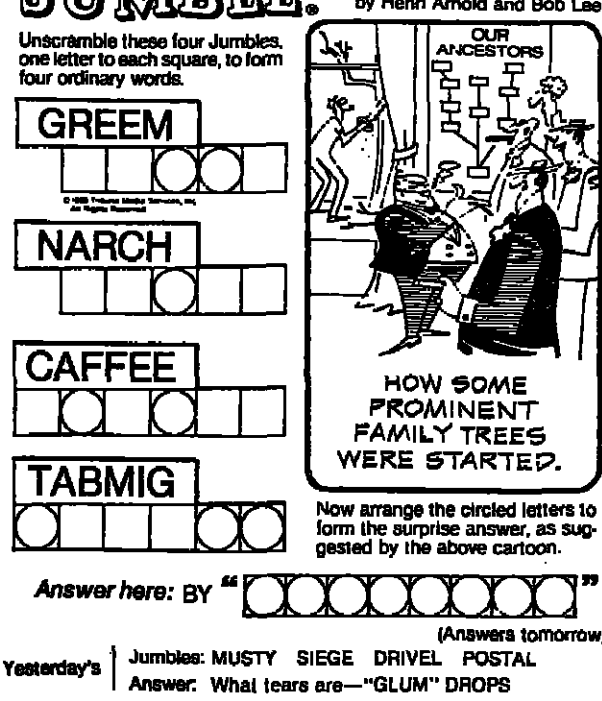
Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME



Police arrest 60 after riots in W. German towns

Pirate radio calls for 'armed demonstration'

FRANKFURT, West Germany (Agencies) — Protests against a neo-Nazi party meeting led to 60 arrests in Hamburg, Berlin and Frankfurt, as a pirate radio called for an "armed demonstration" Tuesday in the financial city of Frankfurt.

The disturbances last Monday and early Tuesday followed a Saturday night march against the National Democratic Party and the death of one of the demonstrators in Frankfurt.

Hamburg police reported that several dozen protesters marched through the streets, setting five fires and attacking several buildings. They reported four arrests in the disturbances.

In Berlin, police said 55 people were arrested after a silent vigil turned violent. They said the protesters clashed with police, set small fires and threw stones at police cars.

Four Berlin police officers were injured, officials said.

In Frankfurt, the leftists vowed to mass again after riot police blocked them from marching through downtown to protest the death of

a fellow demonstrator during weekend street violence.

Police spokesman Hans Neitzel said that a pirate radio station broadcasting in south western areas called for an "armed demonstration" Tuesday night in Frankfurt.

About 600 people on Monday staged a vigil at the site where Guenter Sare was hit and killed by a police vehicle Saturday night as he was demonstrating against a weekend meeting of the National Democratic Party.

The protesters dispersed peacefully by early evening after police told them they would not be allowed to march downtown.

Later in the evening, gangs of teenagers — some of whom had been at the vigil — showed up in the fashionable Zeil shopping area downtown, alternately taunting police and fighting each other with chairs grabbed from sidewalk cafes.

One man was arrested after some of them smashed the windows of a departing police van with bottles and rocks. They scattered when hundreds of police in anti-riot gear arrived.

The local radical Greens Party has led accusations that Sare was a victim of deliberate police brutality and Monday said it had indefinitely postponed coalition talks with the Social Democrat (SPD) Hesse government in protest at this death.

Public Prosecutor Bernhard Rochus told a weekend news conference a post-mortem on Sare showed a head wound that could have been caused by a stone. But witnesses said Sare was on his feet when knocked over by the truck.

Michael Wilk, one of the protest organisers, said the theory that a stone killed Sare was "a cheap excuse". Sare's mother has filed charges against the police officers alleged to have been responsible.



TURKISH DELEGATION ENDS VISIT: Turkey's Chief of Staff Gen. Nafiz Arrog has wound up a week-long visit to Jordan and left for home. During his stay here, Gen. Arrog and his accompanying delegation met with senior government officials and toured a number of military positions and archaeological sites in Jordan. The Turkish delegation was seen off by Armed Forces Commander in Chief Gen. Sharif Zaid Iba Shaker and senior army officers as well as Turkey's ambassador to Jordan Resat Arim.

Botha warns against attack on UNITA

JOHANNESBURG (R) — President P.W. Botha said South Africa cannot stand idle while Soviet-aided Angolan forces launch an assault against the Union For the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA).

He said in a speech that he would keep Pretoria's forces at home if neighbouring states told Cubans and Soviets to go home.

Angola said Monday that South African aircraft carried out an air strike against its forces.

The Angolan Defence Ministry said more than 50 Angolan troops were killed and dozens injured when South African planes attacked Angolan forces early Monday in south east Cuando Cubango province. Six Angolan helicopters were also shot down.

The ministry statement said Angolan forces were attacked from the air while in action against white South African troops backing UNITA's rebels against a

government anti-guerrilla drive.

A South African army spokesman in Pretoria declined Monday night to comment on the latest report of a South African air strike, which Angola said took place in the area of Mavinga, some 250 kilometres north of Angola's southern border.

The Angolan charge was carried by the official Angolan News Agency ANGOP. It said South African planes made two major strikes against Angolan forces in the same area 13 days ago.

The Angolan Defence Ministry said South African motorised infantry units were helping UNITA.

UNITA has said the offensive is the biggest the government has launched and includes Cuban troops and Soviet military personnel.

The South African army spokesman Monday night merely repeated an acknowledgement made earlier this month by South African Defence Minister Magnus

Malan that his country was giving UNITA moral, material and humanitarian aid.

Fighting reported in recent weeks near Mavinga and Cazombo, further north in Mexico province, has produced a series of conflicting claims from Angola, South Africa and UNITA.

South Africa has said a detachment of its troops entered southern Angola last month in an operation against South West African People's Organisation (SWAPO) guerrillas who are fighting South African rule in Namibia (South West Africa).

Pretoria said the raiding party withdrew on Sept. 22 but Angola claims it is still inside its territory, persisting in what it calls its real aim to support the UNITA rebels.

The rebel group has fought Angola's Marxist rulers since the country's independence from Portugal in 1975.

39 Afghan rebels die in Soviet hunt for 5 doctors

ISLAMABAD (R) — Soviet troops have killed 39 Muslim rebels near the northern Afghan city of Mazar-I-Sharif in an unsuccessful hunt for five foreign doctors travelling with the guerrillas. Western diplomats said Tuesday.

The troops launched an extensive search for the doctors on Sept. 15 after learning they were in the area, said the diplomats. They did not know the physicians' nationality.

Five European doctors are believed to be working now at a clinic in the mountains just south of Mazar-I-Sharif set up by the French volunteer organisation "Medecins Sans Frontieres" (doctors without borders). Some but not all there now are French.

The diplomats' reports from Kabul came one day after a rebel group announced an American journalist travelling with two U.S. doctors and another newswoman was killed near the southern city of Kandahar last week.

The Quetta office of the Hezb-I-Islami Party of Yunus Khalid could not identify the dead journalist, whom it said was bur-

ied near the scene of the rocket attack on his truck just north of Kandahar. The other three Americans were still inside Afghanistan, it added.

Three French volunteer groups have been sending doctors into Afghanistan to care for war wounded since fighting between the rebels and the Soviet-backed Kabul government began six years ago.

Moscow now has 115,000 troops in Afghanistan. American medical groups have just begun sending doctors inside Afghanistan despite strong U.S. State Department warnings of the difficulties an American would face if caught by Communist troops.

The diplomats also reported heavy Communist bombing runs over villages around Maidan, 25 kilometres south west of Kabul, on Sept. 24.

About 300 helicopters were seen flying towards Maidan in one of the largest air attacks of the war, they said, and many civilians were reported killed.

Pakistan warns against attack on nuclear plant

ISLAMABAD (Agencies) — Pakistan would consider an attack on its uranium enrichment plant near Islamabad an act of war and react accordingly, a senior Foreign Ministry official said.

Islamabad would hit back "in a manner that would end the dreams of any would-be adventurer who tried to harm Pakistan," Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Zain Noorani told the National Assembly Monday night.

Mr. Noorani denied recent press reports that aircraft from India, long critics of Pakistan's nuclear programme, had flown over the atomic plant at Kahuta south west of Islamabad.

He said Pakistan wanted no war but cooperation with its neighbours, especially India.

Pakistan and India, which have fought three wars since splitting at independence in 1947, have been locked in a battle of words over nuclear issues since New Delhi exploded an atomic device in 1974.

Both say their nuclear pro-

Mugabe, Nkomo to finalise merger

HARARE (R) — Zimbabwean Prime Minister Robert Mugabe and opposition PF-ZAPU party leader Joshua Nkomo will meet soon to finalise a merger between their rival parties, authoritative sources told Reuters Tuesday.

They said the two leaders would discuss a document outlining broad points of agreement on the proposed union which was approved by negotiating teams from both parties at the weekend.

Copies of the accord, covering issues such as the name of the new party and the positions Mr. Nkomo and his senior officials would occupy, had been sent to Mr. Mugabe, who heads the ruling ZANU-PF Party, and Mr. Nkomo.

The sources, who declined to be named, said the weekend talks had agreed to call the new party ZANU (Zimbabwe African National Union), dropping "PF" — Patriotic Front — which was the name of the alliance formed by the two parties to fight white rule.

The alliance collapsed shortly before Zimbabwe's pre-independence general elections in February, 1980.

The two sides had also agreed that Mr. Nkomo would be ZANU's second vice-president which would effectively make him number three in the party hierarchy behind Deputy Prime Minister Simon Muzenda and Mr. Mugabe, the sources said.

But final agreement on the merger still depended on the meeting between Mr. Mugabe and Mr. Nkomo which would be held shortly, the sources said.

No official confirmation of the merger agreement was immediately available.

Indonesia bans mystics

JAKARTA (R) — The Indonesian government Tuesday banned 13 mystical sects which officials said misled people in the mainly Muslim nation. The official Antara News Agency said that the sects' leaders had in some cases misled people in north Sumatra by quoting from officially recognised religions — Islam, Christianity, Buddhism and Hinduism. Antara said a further 26 mystical sects are still allowed in the region. Two of them had more than 5,000 followers each.

'Bride burning' law to go into effect

NEW DELHI (R) — A law goes into effect Wednesday aimed at countering the increasing practice of "bride-burning" — the murder of brides for dowry payments. Indian officials have said more than 1,500 women have been killed in the past three years by husbands and in-laws frustrated by rejected demands for more dowry payments. The killing of young women, called "bride burning," rose to 631 last year from 503 in 1983 and 407 in 1982. In most bride burning cases the victims are set on fire after being doused with kerosene. The in-laws then claim the deaths were suicides or kitchen accidents. The new law amends a 24-year-old statute outlawing dowry payments and increases penalties to six months in jail and a maximum \$1,000 fine.

Man of 70 becomes father of quadruplets

LONDON (R) — A 70-year-old man became the father of test-tube quadruplets when his wife gave birth to two boys and two girls in a London hospital. A spokesman for Hammersmith Hospital in west London said the quadruplets were born by Caesarean section six weeks premature to Doris Del Renzio, 38. Mother and babies were doing well. Her husband Toni, who was at the hospital to witness the births, is believed to be the oldest father of test-tube babies in the world. The couple have been married for 14 years. They have no other children. A hospital statement said the parents "are both delighted the treatment has been successful." The statement added that the Del Renzios had signed a contract giving a Sunday newspaper exclusive rights to their story.

Iran cracks alcohol selling ring

TEHRAN (R) — Tehran police have broken up a group of alcohol producers operating in the centre of the city, the Islamic Republic newspaper reported Tuesday. In a small area near Narmak they discovered several stills, seized 13,000 litres (2,860 gallons) of spirit and arrested 12 people. It quoted a police spokesman as saying. The production and consumption of alcohol by Muslims has been prohibited by law in Iran since the 1979 Islamic Revolution.

Child defector turns 18 Thursday

CHICAGO (R) — Walter Polovchak, who became a pawn in an international tug-of-war struggle at the age of 12, turns 18 on Thursday and moves beyond the reach of legal efforts to force him to return to the Soviet Union. To celebrate the event he will feast on a typical American treat — a strawberry birthday cake. "I have no regrets. I would do it again," the lanky high school student said in a recent interview. He has already filled out U.S. citizenship forms and studied for the three-minute civics test required of applicants. Julian Kules, Polovchak's lawyer, said he hoped the oath of citizenship would be administered on Oct. 8 in Washington where Polovchak will be the guest at a celebration hosted by several patriotic groups. The baby-faced boy who caught the public's attention five years ago as a young defector now works at night at a grocery store, likes bowling and films and has a girlfriend. As a 12-year-old, Polovchak ran away from home when his parents, who emigrated to the United States in 1980, prepared to return after only a six-month stay. At the time he complained about a lack of freedom in the Soviet Union and said he would commit suicide rather than return.

Kinnock retains edge in ruling body

BOURNEMOUTH, England (R) — Supporters of British Labour Party leader Neil Kinnock retained a slender edge over left-wingers in elections to the party's ruling body, according to results announced Tuesday.

Candidates of the centre and right wing of the main opposition party took 16 seats in the 29-member National Executive Committee.

The remainder went to the so-called hard left who have attacked Mr. Kinnock at the Labour conference here this week for taking the party to the right.

A victory for the left in the internal poll would have been a blow to Mr. Kinnock in his campaign to take on party radicals.

Left-wing activists have accused Mr. Kinnock of being a "class traitor".

The charges came on the second

day of the Labour conference in this southern coastal resort at a rally addressed by coal miners' left-wing leader Arthur Scargill.

Left-wing black activist Sharon Atkin, from the Brixton district of London where riots erupted at the weekend, told the rally that if Mr. Kinnock lost the debate "it is better that he goes because the man is a class traitor."

Mr. Kinnock opposes a commitment to repay the £1.5 million (\$20 million) in fines imposed under Conservative government Labour law, on the grounds that legislation cannot be repealed retroactively.

But the dispute is being seen as symbolic of a battle within the main British opposition party between left-wing activists, represented by Mr. Scargill, and a moderate leadership attempting to win over floating voters.

Mr. Kinnock received a setback Monday night when Britain's largest Union, the transport workers' declared they would cast their 1,250,000 bloc votes at the conference in favour of Mr. Scargill.

The Transport Union decision made it almost certain Mr. Kinnock would lose the vote which he had already said he would disregard if it went against him.

In meetings of the party executive, Mr. Kinnock has made little effort to avert the clash, apparently on the grounds that if he makes a tough stand against the left he will win the support of middle-of-the-road voters.

At Monday night's rally, veteran left-wing spokeswoman Joan Maynard said: "What a scandal it is that the leader of the Labour Party has been trying to persuade people to vote against the miners."

Report shows wind shear caused Delta plane crash

WASHINGTON (R) — Wind shear probably caused the crash of a Delta Airlines jet which killed 134 people, but the plane's captain bitterly criticised an "inexperienced" controller minutes before he died in the disaster, officials have said.

A total of 31 people, including three stewardesses, survived the crash on Aug. 2.

The government report, by the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), logged the desperate last words of the captain of the Lockheed TriStar as he tried to avert the disaster.

"Watch your speed, you're gonna lose it all of a sudden," the captain, Edward Connors, said about a minute before his aircraft bounced twice, hit a water tank and burst into flames just short of the Dallas-Fort Worth runway, according to transcripts from the cockpit voice recorder released Monday.

"Push it up, push it way up," the

57-year-old Connors continued, apparently referring to the plane's airspeed.

Moments later, the cockpit conversation abruptly ended.

Earlier, while the plane was still 15 minutes from the airport, Connors was critical of an air traffic controller for taking too long to allow him to skirt a fast-approaching thunderstorm during the flight from Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

"Getting kind of hot in the oven with this controller. See that's what the lack of experience does," Connors was heard to say.

The NTSB investigation, however, turned up no evidence that the controller's actions played any role in the crash, according to the report.

It also said that violent and unpredictable bursts of wind, known as wind shear, appeared to have been the principal cause of the disaster.

New York puts mafia on trial

NEW YORK (R) — The mafia went on trial in two federal courts, opening a string of legal actions aimed at putting the shadowy leaders of America's underworld, including the man known as the "boss of bosses," behind bars.

In one trial Monday, Sicilian mafia turncoat Tommaso Buscetta will testify against 23 men accused of forming the "pizza connection" ring in which pizza parlours across the United States were used as fronts for importing \$1.6 billion worth of heroin.

In the other, Paul Castellano, head of the Gambino crime family and reputed "boss of bosses" of the American mafia, is accused with several associates of running an international car theft, loan-sharking and prostitution ring that killed 23 people.

The two trials are the start of a series of legal actions masterminded by Manhattan's federal prosecutor, Rudolph Giuliani. He plans to put the leaders of each of New York City's five organised crime families on trial for racketeering by the middle of next year.

More than 3,000 prospective jurors — their names kept secret from both prosecution and defence lawyers — were called Monday for selection of two 16-member juries.

Giuliani said the jurors would remain anonymous because he feared mob attempts to "bribe, threaten or injure" them. Many of the prospective jurors questioned Monday said they were reluctant to serve.

The chief defendants in the pizza connection case are Gaetano Badalamenti, 52, reputed to be the head of an organised crime family in Sicily, and Salvatore Catalano, the alleged underboss of New York's Bonanno crime family.

The government's star witness is Buscetta, 52, a former associate of Badalamenti, whose confessions have led to charges against more than 300 people in Italy, some of them politicians and businessmen.

Buscetta turned informer after his wife, two sons, brother and four other relatives were murdered by rivals in Italy.

The government says it will try to prove that Badalamenti and 22 others were involved in a drug import conspiracy that succeeded in peddling \$1.6 billion worth of heroin in several U.S. states between January 1980 and September 1982.

Reagan offers ambassadorship to Heckler

WASHINGTON (R) — President Ronald Reagan has offered Health and Human Services Secretary Margaret Heckler the post of U.S. ambassador to Ireland after denying he intended to fire her.

White House spokesman Larry Speakes said Ms. Heckler asked for a few days to consider the offer.

But asked if she had the option of continuing in her present post if she refused the ambassadorship, Mr. Speakes replied: "I don't have an answer for that."

Mr. Reagan earlier had denied he intended to fire Ms. Heckler despite published reports that she would be ousted and offered the diplomatic post. Recently she has angered some conservatives, who form one of Mr. Reagan's major

political bases.

Ms. Heckler, 54, asked for a meeting with Mr. Reagan Monday. She and the president talked for 50 minutes in the Oval Office.

"During the meeting, the president expressed the desire that she serve as ambassador to Ireland. The president believes that Secretary Heckler is well-qualified and in a position to make a valuable contribution as ambassador," Mr. Speakes said.

Ms. Heckler heads a department with an annual budget of \$300 billion which oversees the huge Social Security Programme. She is one of two women in Mr. Reagan's cabinet. The other is Transportation Secretary Elizabeth Dole.

Mr. Speakes said Mr. Reagan

regarded the envoy's post as a promotion although Ms. Heckler has said privately she did not want the job. It carries a salary of about \$70,000, about \$12,000 less than she is paid as a cabinet member.

After persistent news reports that she was being pressed to leave, Mr. Reagan told reporters during a photo-taking session with King Hussein: "There has never been any thought in my mind of firing Margaret Heckler."

He said he was satisfied with her performance, although he suggested that some changes might be imminent.

Mr. Reagan said the news media had been given "a great deal of misinformation" about the issue.

Malaysia denies attacking Philippine island

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — Malaysia Tuesday denied a Philippine military report that its forces had killed 53 people in a gunboat and helicopter raid on a remote Philippine island.

A Defence Ministry spokesman told Reuters: "There was no such incident. It is not our policy to enter other people's territorial waters. We believe certain people with vested interests have made (the report) up."

He would not elaborate.

The military said Monday in Zamboanga City in the southern Philippines that Malaysian gunboats and helicopter gunships had strafed the tiny island of Maranas last week and troops had landed, attacking islanders and burning houses.

Sabah, about 100 kilometres from Maranas, killing 10 people.

An official Philippine spokesman said the Foreign Ministry would not confirm or deny the attack until it had full information.

Manila has claimed Sabah for decades. The issue is highly sensitive and led to a break in diplomatic ties with Kuala Lumpur in 1963. President Ferdinand Marcos restored them in 1966 but a flare-up led to suspension in 1968.

Links were restored through efforts by other states in the Association of South East Asian Nations which groups the two nations with Brunei, Indonesia, Singapore and Thailand.

Mr. Marcos has said he is willing to drop the claim but has not actually done so.

planes and helicopters were seen near the Tawi-Tawi group of islands before the reported attack on nearby Maranas.

But he said the incident would not result in a military confrontation with Malaysia.

Mr. Enrile told reporters it was "more of a diplomatic than a security problem", adding that an official protest would have to be lodged if the men involved turned out to be members of the Malaysian Armed Forces.

Philippines News Agency quoted military sources as saying 11 unidentified navy vessels escorted by planes and helicopters were seen in the area as late as last Sunday.

The news agency said a general was investigating the reported incident and quoted marines who visited the island as saying they saw burned houses and signs of a massacre.

France prepares media campaign against nuclear protest

PAPEETE, Tahiti (R) — The French military Tuesday prepared a publicity counter-offensive to the campaign against French nuclear tests after inviting journalists to the test zone in the Pacific.

Twenty journalists arrived in Tahiti from Paris Monday and will board a French Navy vessel shortly before a protest flotilla assembles off the test site at Mururoa atoll.

The protest has been organised by the environmentalist group Greenpeace to coincide with a new series of underground tests at Mururoa atoll.

French President Francois Mitterrand, embroiled in a row over the sinking of a Greenpeace ship by French secret agents in New Zealand in July, visited the test site last month to signal France's resolve to continue them.

He has ordered the armed forces to prevent vessels from approaching within 12 miles of the atoll and ships of the French Pacific fleet have begun shadowing the protesters' vessels.

The protesters have themselves invited reporters and photographers on board their flagship Greenpeace.

The French Defence Ministry responded with a rare invitation to allow journalists to report on what it called "the execution of the president's directive regarding the prohibited territorial waters of Mururoa."

The Greenpeace, a converted ocean-going tug, and four smaller vessels have on board rubber dinghies with powerful motors which could be used for lightning raids on the atoll.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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THE TALE OF THE SEVEN OF HEARTS

DEAR READERS: We have had many requests over the years for those hands we consider to be our favorites. That makes quite a list. For the time being, therefore, we are devoting the Sunday column to a series of famous hands. At the end of the series we will go back to our weekly question and answer column.

Both vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH
♠ 754
♥ 7
♦ KQ7
♣ AK954

WEST
♠ K10
♥ AQ954
♦ 932
♣ J86

EAST
♠ QJ8632
♥ 6
♦ 4
♣ Q10732

SOUTH
♠ A
♥ KJ10832
♦ AJ10865
♣ Void

The bidding:
East South West North
2 ♠ 3 ♠ Pass 4 NT
Pass 5 ♠ Pass Pass

Opening lead of ♠.

He was a grizzled veteran of many campaigns. Despite a slight limp caused by a stray bullet at Anzio, there was a spring in the step of the Seven of Hearts as he strolled away from the game in the company of a select band of admirers.

"Cannon fodder, that's all we are and all we are meant to be," he thundered. "I know that, occasionally, we win a trick by ruffing or by becoming a long card in a suit. But for the most part we are stationed in the front line to be mowed down

by the enemy.

"In my long career, only once can I remember when I won a trick in my own right early in the play. What made the escape even more satisfying was that it took place in the semifinals of the world team championship.

"East's opening two spade bid might look a bit strange to you, but I guess anything goes at the world championship. Our player in the South seat elected to make a strong takeout with his ace-bid. North's jump to four no-trump was not Blackwood. Instead, it showed a good hand with the values concentrated in the minor suits. Hence South's leap to six diamonds.

"West led the king of spades, and when dummy appeared declarer realized that he was not going to have a cakewalk. After winning the ace of spades, it was tempting to cross to the table with a trump and lead a heart. However, that was unlikely to gain anything and declarer was reluctant to use up one of his few entries to dummy so early in the play.

"Instead, he elected to lead a low heart from his hand. West could see no reason not to follow the old adage of 'second hand low' and, to everyone's surprise, I won the trick!

"The rest was simple. Two hearts were shuffled on the top clubs. Now two clubs were ruffed, the second high, to provide entries for two heart ruffs on the board with the king and queen of trumps. A spade ruff high was followed by a diamond ruff with the seven. This high crossruff established the defenders' nine of trumps as a trick, but that was all the defense could get. Six diamonds bid and made!"